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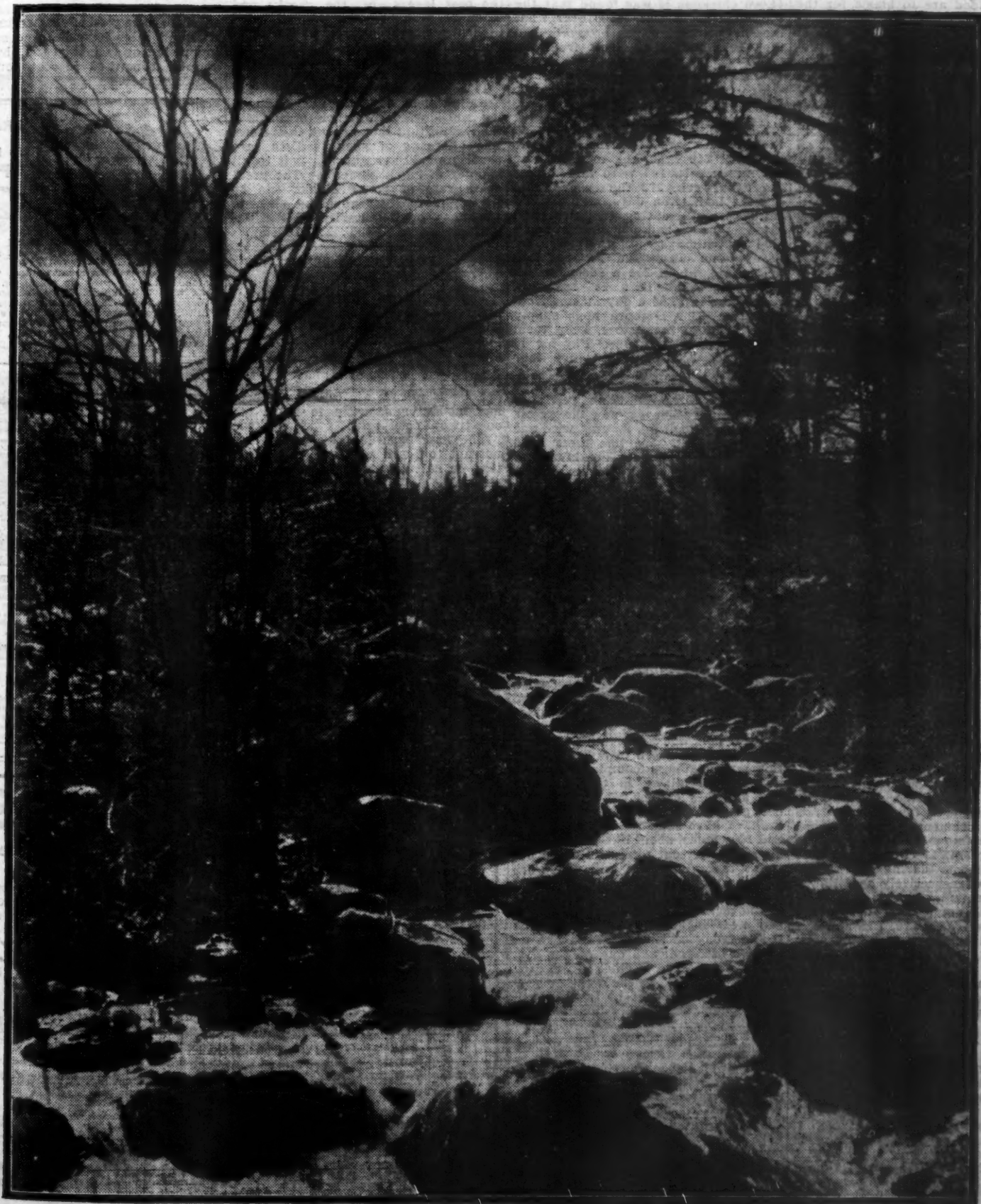
DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE HORSES CATTLE SHEEP SWINE ETC.

OLDEST AGRICULTURAL AND LIVE STOCK JOURNAL IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Sixty-Seventh Year.

ST. LOUIS, MO., APRIL 9, 1914.

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IN THE POULTRY YARD

WHOLESALE FATTENING OF POULTRY.

But few poultry raisers send their broilers and roasters to market in prime condition and well fattened; most of our prime poultry consists of birds which have been purchased by poultry packers in a poor, lean condition and fattened in lots of from 10,000 to 40,000, a gain in weight being secured in from 7 to 15 days of feeding amounting to from 15 to 30 per cent. If the farmers of the country would do this themselves it is estimated that they would add from \$45,000,000 to \$50,000,000 a year to their receipts.

The farmers who let their poultry practically shift for themselves in the search for food are to blame for the new system of commercial poultry fattening—a highly organized system of not only shipping but preliminary preparation and fattening, with, as usual, a middle or middleman's feature—simply because the producer has been unable to respond to the demand for a prime article.

During the period of fattening in vogue at the large establishments, oil replaces much of the water in the chicken's flesh so that when the fowl is cooked the otherwise stringy meat becomes tender and juicy. Many eaters of poultry do not really know how delicious and well fattened such a bird is, for it is seldom found in the average market. Not only does the poultry fatter, during the 10 days of stuffing with grain and milk, increase the weight of his chickens as much as one-fifth, but he adds several cents a pound on account of the greatly improved quality of the flesh. The chickens themselves undergo a complete transformation and doubtless have the time of their short lives during these last few days before they depart this world. The farmer who will take the best of care of his horses or cattle will often bring in chickens to the local buyer in lots of five or six tied together with a tight cord around their legs, or stuffed in a burlap sack so that either their legs are scraped bare or they are nearly smothered. When they reach the fattening establishment they are fed good ground grain and milk (with a little tallow added to whiten the flesh) three or four times a day to the very limit of their digestive capacity. A gain of 10 pounds a week for a person at a health resort would be small compared to the way these chickens lay on flesh and fat. And it is the "milk fed" poultry which commands the price in the markets. If all our farmers would approach this result they would not only be considerably wealthier but the company would have a couple of hundred million pounds a year more poultry and of primer quality than it has at present.

In 1911 and 1912, the Department of Agriculture made some experiments and observations at four separate fattening establishments. The average cost and the amount of feed consumed in fattening 394,744 chickens in the four experiments during the season of 1911 were, respectively as follows: Grain per pound of gain 3.62, 3.33, 4.45 and 4.18 pounds; cost of feed per pound of gain 7.83, 7.20, 7.15 and 8.71 cents; total cost per pound of gain, 9.18, 9.20, 8.96 and 10.27 cents. The averages in 1912 for 498,681 chickens were: Grain per pound of gain, 4.42, 3.58, 3.72 and 4.98 pounds; cost of feed per pound of gain, 8.74, 7.70, 6.61 and 9.95 cents; total cost per pound of gain 10.37, 9.69, 7.98 and 11.54 cents. It was found that oat flour produced greater gains than low grade wheat flour, but the latter feed produced cheaper gains.

The best results were secured with the following three rations: No. 1, three parts of corn meal, two parts of low-grade wheat flour and one part of shorts; No. 2, three parts of corn meal and two parts of low-grade wheat flour, and No. 3, five parts of corn meal, three parts of low-grade wheat flour, one part of shorts and five per cent of tallow. The same feeding value is secured in a ration of three parts of corn meal and two parts of oat flour but at an increased



cost of 37 cents per hundred pounds of gain. Four parts of corn meal, two of low-grade wheat flour and one of shorts gave very good results during the latter part of the feeding season, or in cool weather; that is, the proportion of corn meal and low-grade wheat flour may be increased in cool weather.

In some observations with a lot of 44,000 chickens it was found that the estimated profit was \$5500 over what the birds would have brought had they been marketed direct from the farm.

GLEN RAVEN EGG FARM NOTES.

Editor Rural World: During the first three weeks of March, our hens have laid 850 eggs, and to show how the increase is, 163 were laid during the first week, 272 the second, and 415 the last seven days, and we had six snow falls during this time and there is snow and ice on the north side of buildings at this writing. Seventy-one dozen and 10 eggs laid in 21 days, worth 25c a dozen, worth \$17.95 all told. This is knocking right close to \$1.00 a day income from the hens. Our Leghorn hens supply three 100 egg incubators, keep them full of eggs all the time. Pay for 40 gallons of best coal oil every four weeks. Pay for all the oats and wheat bran, that all the stock on the place eat. Keep our table well supplied with fresh eggs, and the writer would not "spoil his mouth" with one egg at a meal. We like them fried with ham, or bacon for breakfast and either boiled or made into an omelet for supper. We also exchange some in town for groceries and an occasional order comes in for eggs for hatching. The weather has been so cold and stormy, makes the demand for hatching eggs slow, but it has a tendency to hold the market price firm.

Broiler chicks should be in good demand at fair prices, since we have had 12 snow storms in the last two months. It has been difficult to make the incubators do good work, and then to care for the chick in stormy weather requires skill and comfortable houses, together with good brooders. I have three large Hydro Safety Lamps to run my machines with. They run like a clock, no matter how cold and stormy the weather, there is no variation in my machines. But my neighbors complain of the temperature falling in their incubators and they cannot get it up. They use good oil but their lamps are at fault. I have somewhere between 200 and 250 chicks, about like partridges—all feathering out nicely. I could not count them correctly unless I were to close them up in the brooders and take them out one at a time. They are never still a moment in day time. Our next incubator is due to hatch the last day of March. Then one on the 4th of April, and one on the 7th. We get from 70 to 75 chicks from each 100-egg machine, as the weather gets warmer the per cent of fertility will run higher and possibly the machines will do better work. I find very few dead germs in testing, the loss is most infertile. I can test a tray of 100 eggs on the 6th day of incubation in 20 minutes and place every egg in a separate pile, fertile, infertile and dead—that is, white eggs tested in the sunlight. I can test the yellow eggs about as rapidly, but mark some doubtful, and place them back in the machine. If eggs are all fresh, they will look very much the same on the 6th day of incubation. Eggs of different ages don't all develop alike. They don't all hatch at the same time and the chicks vary in vitality, and hardness. Close-penned breeding stock do not produce as hardy offspring as stock on free range. I am

an advocate of large, roomy, grassy runs for breeders in summer time, and all out doors is better.

E. W. GEER.

Farmington, Mo.

PULLETS AS BREEDERS.

Editor Rural World: If the farmer finds it necessary to use pullets in his breeding pens, only those that started to lay early in the fall should be chosen. The pullet that starts to lay in October or November, will usually lay well all winter, and by the time the breeding season begins, they are as fully developed as the two-year-old hens. Another point to remember is that the pullets that begin to lay early in the fall will prove the best layers in the flock; and when used as breeders this tendency to heavy egg production and winter-laying is transmitted to the off-spring. The pullets should be mated to a vigorous two-year old male.

It is unsafe to use pullets in the breeding pens that do not begin to lay until warm weather begins for the reason that they are yet immature. The offspring of such pullets are usually weaklings and fall heir to all manner of chick ailments. The great death rate of young chicks can be traced, more than anything else, to weakness or immaturity of the parent stock.

T. Z. RICHEY.

POULTRY NOTES.

The Mississippi Agricultural College obtained satisfactory results by feeding laying hens a ration composed of corn meal sixty pounds, cotton-seed meal fifteen pounds wheat bran five pounds and oats twenty pounds.

A poultry farm at Holliston, Mass., has incubator capacity to hatch at one time 82,500 eggs.

The first eggs laid by pullets are not apt to hatch well and the chicks that do hatch, as a rule, are not very strong.

It is easier to care for an incubator than a number of broody hens. However, it requires an effort and looking after at the right time to get good results from either.

At the Boston Poultry Show, in January, there were 3,451 birds in single coops and 225 exhibition yards of five birds each. The Boston Show is the Clearing House of prize contests. The Pigeon Show also had 2,600 entries.

Feeding heavily to induce early broodiness is a preposterous notion. Feed the larger breeds too liberally and they become so fat that neither the eggs hatch well, nor are the chicks strong.

During recent years many farmers have gone back on their old friend—the Windmill—and have been using gasoline engines for the purpose of pumping water.

While the gasoline engine is a most satisfactory adjunct to a farm and cannot be replaced at this time as a handy power especially adapted for operating churns, cream separators, feed mills, wood saws and many other machines, it is nevertheless, a fact that a good reliable windmill will pump water day and night, year in and year out, and by storing it in a tank of sufficient size, will supply water as needed. Windmills have been used for years and years and there are no good reasons for discontinuing their use now. After the cost of first installation they call for very little expense and require hardly any attention.

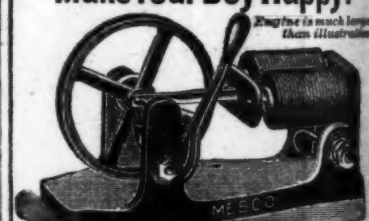
The Stover Mfg. Co., of Freeport, Ill., who build the original double-gear Samson Windmill, have been advertising for the past few years, "Let the Wind Pump Your Water for Nothing," and they report that this seems to have good effect, because their windmill sales have been constantly increasing and last year's business showed a marked increase over the previous year.



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CREAM of the DAIRY NEWS

THE COST OF RAISING A DAIRY COW.

Investigations of the Department of Agriculture indicate that farmers in Wisconsin and Districts Where Similar Land and Feed Values Prevail Can Not Afford to Raise a Heifer Calf That is Worth Less Than \$60 at Two Years of Age.

According to investigators in the Department of Agriculture the average net cost of raising a dairy heifer one year old on a Wisconsin farm is \$39.52 and of a two year heifer \$61.41. These figures are applicable to other dairy districts in the North and East where land and feed values are similar to those in Wisconsin. They are based on data obtained from raising 117 calves from birth to the time they enter the dairy herd. The details, with a complete summary of the investigation, have recently been published by the Department of Agriculture in Bulletin No. 49, under the title of "The Cost of Raising a Dairy Cow." There are in the United States over 21,000,000 dairy cows. These figures give some idea of the importance of this economic problem to the country as a whole, for these cows must be replaced every few years. The cost of the production of these heifers is a large item in keeping down the profits of the dairymen.

The new bulletin contains numerous tables and illustrations of the Jersey calves from which the items of cost were obtained. The most important item was the cost of the food, which was estimated at market value and amounted to nearly two-thirds of the total net cost of the heifer, while labor formed 12 1/2 per cent of the cost.

Figures for the average net cost of the one-year-old heifer are as follows:

Feed	\$24.67
Labor	4.45
Other costs	6.36
Total	\$35.48

To this should be added the initial value of the calf, which was estimated to be \$7.04, making a total cost at the end of one year of \$42.52. This charge is justified in view of the fact that dairy cows are credited with this item in determining the cost of milk production. By allowing \$3 credit for manure, it leaves a net cost of \$39.52 at the end of the first year.

Figures for the average net cost of the two-year-old heifer are as follows:

Initial value	\$ 7.04
Feed	40.83
Labor	7.81
Other costs	13.73
Total	\$69.41

Credit for manure ... 8.00

\$61.41

One-half of the feed cost the first year and one-third for the full two years is for whole and skim milk.

By far the most expensive period in the life of the calf is the first four



weeks, the cost being nearly double that for any other four-week period. This high cost is occasioned by its being dependent almost entirely upon whole milk.

The man labor required in raising a heifer is about 40 hours during the first year and 23 hours the second year. The total cost of man and horse labor for the two years is close to \$8. The manure produced during the two years has been valued at \$8; consequently, the cost of labor is practically offset by the value of the manure.

The item "Other costs" consists of expenses usually overlooked in estimating costs. These are interest, charge for the use of buildings and equipment, expense for bedding, miscellaneous expenses, a share of the general expenses for the entire farm business, and a charge to cover losses by death and discarding. The total for these forms nearly one-fifth of the total cost of the two-year-old heifer.

The foregoing figures show that it costs more to raise calves to maturity than is commonly supposed, and they support the advice which the Department is continually trying to impress upon dairy farmers, that it does not pay to raise any but the best heifers. Raising scrub heifers and selling them at \$25 to \$40 apiece, as many do, is unprofitable except on cheap land or under other very favorable conditions. But it does pay to raise the best heifers, for in good dairy sections well-bred heifers are worth considerably more than \$60 when two years of age. Furthermore, dairy farmers as a rule are obliged to raise their own stock, as it is difficult to buy productive cows at a reasonable price. In some sections of the West where alfalfa is worth only \$4 or \$5 a ton, or in the Southwest where pastures furnish feed the greater part of the year, this cost may be greatly reduced. Even where it costs \$60 to raise a heifer, two-thirds of this amount is charged for feeds at market prices, a large part of which can be grown on the farm at a profit. Thus by raising the heifers the dairy farmer finds a home market for feeds grown on the farm at remunerative prices, and at the same time aids in maintaining the fertility of the farm.

THE MILKING HOUR.

Personally I am not in favor of converting the milking barn into a conservatory of music, especially if the programme is to be furnished by milkers who become so absorbed in their yodelling and humming that with them milking becomes a secondary consideration, and the cow soon loses patience and will not give down her milk

readily. Neither do I believe the investment in musical instruments necessary. On the other hand, if I should enter a barn at milking time where deathly silence prevails, although a number of milkers are at work, I should be inclined to believe that something was wrong and I would not be at all surprised to see a milker suddenly rise with the uplifted milk-stool, for it has been my experience with milkers that those who sulked about the barn with never a word to say were generally out of sympathy with their work, and therefore the first to use the milk-stool. I maintain that you cannot and should not keep a cheerful and contented milker absolutely quiet.

But where are you going to draw the line, if noise aggravates, and silence is monotonous and breeds discontent? Let each cow have her name. Then put the man at some work other than milking, who does not take kindly enough to his job or to his string of cows to call each one by name, to bestow occasional (friendly) pat, and to ask her to step over and put her foot back. Let the milking hours be a pleasant event for both the cow and milker. When the two get to a point where they have formed a mutual friendship you have reached the ideal condition. I doubt whether or not the milker can reach that point either by noisy singing or by noiselessly sulking about his work.—H. E. Dvorachek, Animal Husbandry Department.

COUNTY AGENT SHOULD ADVISE AGAINST TURNING ON PASTURES TOO EARLY.

Farmers are inclined to turn their cows on pasture too early in the spring. County agents could do much good in using their influence in checking this practice. The plant food taken from the soil and the air is manufactured into substances that can be used in making further growth by small green bodies (chlorophyll bodies) which are located in the leaves. If there is a meager green-leaf surface and this is kept constantly cropped, the plant will be unable to manufacture much material for further growth and will be unable to extend its root system in order to get a new supply of plant food. The growth of such a plant will be extremely slow, and the plant will eventually become greatly enfeebled. Under such conditions the carrying capacity of the pasture will be low and will gradually diminish. The best grazers know that the carrying capacity of a pasture during the growing season is much greater if the grass is three or four inches high before stock are turned on. A grass leaf four inches long is in position to manufacture food doubly as fast as one two inches long and four times as fast as one of only one inch in length.

The increased carrying capacity resulting from early protection presupposes that the pasture is not too closely grazed the rest of the season; or if close grazing is practised that this is for short periods at stated intervals. Farmers who because of an insufficient supply of forage are obliged

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to turn stock out early or obliged to stock their pastures to the maximum will get more feed if the pastures are subdivided into two or more areas and the stock changed about frequently. Experimental evidence showing the increased feed that can be procured where alternate grazing is practised is not available. However, general experience shows that the carrying capacity is much greater, some farmers claiming that it is doubled where this method is practised.

Another serious result from too early grazing is the injury from compaction of the soil. Stock allowed to trample on wet soils containing clay so compact these soils that the best pasture plants can no longer exist.—J. S. Cotton.

KANSAS COMPLIMENTS MISSOURI.

Missouri has received a mighty fine compliment from Kansas in the recognition of the best silo bulletin yet issued in the United States. The Kansas Department of Agriculture asked for and has been granted permission by the Missouri State Board of Agriculture to republish J. Kelly Wright's great bulletin entitled "Silo Facts from Missouri Farmers." The war really is now over—Kansas and Missouri have buried the hatchet!

High Pressure Days.

Men and women alike have to work incessantly with brain and hand to hold their own nowadays. Never were the demands of business, the wants of the family, the requirements of society, more numerous. The first effect of the praiseworthy effort to keep up with all these things is commonly seen in a weakened or debilitated condition of the nervous system, which results in dyspepsia, defective nutrition of both body and brain, and in extreme cases in complete nervous prostration. It is clearly seen that what is needed is what will sustain the system, give vigor and tone to the nerves, and keep the digestive and assimilative functions healthy and active. From personal knowledge, we can recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla for this purpose. It acts on all the vital organs, builds up the whole system, and fits men and women for these high-pressure days.



A Group of Dairy Cows.

Cattle

PRACTICAL TALK TO SOUTHERN STOCKMEN.

The Following is Substance of an Address Delivered by Mr. E. S. Downs of the Cattle Department of Clay, Robinson & Co., at National Stock Yards, Illinois.

For more than 22 years I was a cattle salesman at the Kansas City market, and for more than a year just passed I have been engaged in the same business at National Stock Yards at East St. Louis, Ill., with Clay, Robinson & Co., where I have had opportunity to see and compare the quality and value of cattle coming to that market from many different states, and I find the cattle from Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Florida are smaller, according to age, and more common in quality than from any other section of the country, and as a consequence they sell for less price and net less dollars per head.

One reason for this, is that these states are infested with ticks, which necessitate your cattle going into quarantine pens at the northern markets where they can be used only to slaughter, unless they are put through a dipping process, which is expensive and in the winter season dangerous as there is frequent severe death loss. We have only a short open quarantine season, beginning the 1st of November and extending to the 1st of February, during which time cattle are permitted to ship from quarantine pens to points north of the Missouri river, and as many feeders are very suspicious about the possible danger of bringing ticks to their native cattle at any season of the year, they are reluctant to buy them, hence, you can realize the importance of fighting the ticks and making yours a clean territory that will permit your cattle to go to any part of the country without restriction of prejudice, giving you a wider outlet and better price for them. And, while fighting the tick, you can enhance the value of your cattle to a still greater extent by putting in some good bull of standard breed, either Herefords, Shorthorns or Angus—any of which are recognized as standard beef breeds which produce best results—and you will very soon be agreeably surprised at the improvement in quality and increased market value.

Now it may be said that all cannot do this—which is perhaps true—but I will tell you what all of you can do, you can give more attention to the cattle you now have and improve the quality a great deal by looking after the calves, castrate the male calves when they are from three to six months old, which will let them grow into better shaped steers, making them worth more money to mature and feed and you can leave as bulls enough to serve your cows, selecting the best individuals for the purpose, paying close attention to color and conformation, which all help to make quality.

Now, you people have the climate favorable for breeding and with your abundance of grass and long grazing season, together with the short, mild winter, you can produce a much greater per cent of calves and at less cost than can be produced in the north,

where the grazing season is shorter and the winters more severe, making it necessary for them to feed stronger and longer.

If the people of this country will bring their cattle up to a standard in quality there is a good market awaiting them in the North, where they will have ready sale at a good price, either as fat cattle or feeders; as the cattle feeders through the corn belt of the North where they have high-priced lands and small pastures cannot afford to raise a sufficient number of cattle to consume their corn, and as a consequence they are constantly hunting for a supply of feeding cattle that will respond and give them a profitable recompense for their feed and labor. But cattle such as you now have are not profitable to handle in this way and can be used only for short feed to produce butchers' stuff most suitable for spring market, and were it not that they can buy them at a low price they could not use them at all.

Can you realize that a good, well bred calf at eight to ten months old will weigh more than the average cattle in the South at two years to five years of age? Such is the case. And can you realize that the hide alone on the good, well bred calf is worth from \$3 to \$5 more than the hide on the little Southern scrub cattle? Such is also a fact.

It is not necessary that you grow or feed cattle until they weigh 1,400 to 1,600 pounds, as the younger stuff, termed "baby beef," are now most desirable for general use, and the well bred cattle that will respond to feed with a good grain are the only kind profitable to handle in this way. The heavier cattle also sell for a good price and are used mostly by the large hotels, as the various cuts of meat taken from the heavy cattle are too large for the ordinary domestic family and cost too much money, while the same cuts of meat from the baby beefs supply these wants and at a price that the ordinary family can afford, giving them at the same time the best and choicest of the meat.

Do you know that very few of the cattle from this section of the country which are now coming to the Northern markets, are used as dressed beef, and will you be surprised if I tell you the greater part of it is made into sausage, bologna and dried beef, for which only the lower priced meats are used? These cattle have a very thin flesh and unless they are grain or meal fed long enough to put some fat on them the meat will turn very dark in a short time, tough and rosey, making it unsalable and useless, except for the purposes I have named; but if well fed for say 90 days, it makes a fairly good meat and I have often wondered why there is not more feeding done in this country.

Now, let me tell you some experience I have had with cattle from your country, which will do you good to know.

I bought last winter at the St. Louis market, for a customer in Central Missouri a carload of little Southern heifers, weighing about 400 pounds, for which I paid an average price of \$4.18 per 100. He took them home, put them on a feed of ground corn with a few pounds of cottonseed meal each day and gave them clover hay for roughness. After having them on full feed for about 80 days he sent them back to St. Louis weighing 600 pounds, and I sold them for \$7.60 per 100, making them net a nice profit in a very short time. Now you can do the same thing here if you will try, as I have already had opportunity to see various samples of corn raised in this locality which can be used most profitably in cattle feeding, and the result will be most pleasing, I assure you.

Now, you may say, if this can be done with the cattle we now have what use for us to bother about better ones. But you must not forget that the well bred cattle will be large enough for feed of this kind when six to eight months old, while the cattle you now have must be from twelve to eighteen months or two years old before they have frame enough to build the flesh on. Hence you can see the advantage of blood, that will enable you to realize two or three times as much for every calf you raise, and I call your attention to the achievement of W. J. Davis & Co., of Jackson, Miss., where you can buy

as well bred Herefords as it is possible to produce, and it is a real pleasure for any man to go out to his pasture and look at a herd of well colored good cattle, which it is no more trouble to grow than it is to grow a common cow.

Now, with the proper foundation and a little care in selecting good bulls your calves will be uniform in conformation, and when you establish a standard of quality in your cattle you will at the same time establish a reputation for them that will be a lasting capital for you, as you will find buyers ready to take them at all times and at good prices.

In Texas and Colorado, where good herds have been established, they are known by brands and when talked of by men who know them they speak of the brands, as for instance, the "L. S." or the "J. A." cattle, or the "J. J." and many other well known brands, and rarely ever mention the owner's name, as they are so well known that they are sold and contracted for by the thousands without the buyer seeing them, the owners simply agree to deliver to the purchasers at an agreed price so many cattle of certain age and brand and the buyers know they will be perfectly uniform and alike, and when put on feed to fatten for the market they will mature evenly and alike, which makes them most desirable for the packer who will pay a better price for them because the packer is sure of what he is getting.

Now, another and most important feature connected with feeding cattle is the fact that they build up and enrich the land, which makes it productive of better crop, and if you will put your cattle in small pens to feed, you can at the same time fatten a bunch of hogs which will take up all the waste and get fat with little added expense, which alone makes cattle feeding very profitable. This, of course, can only be done when feeding with corn, as cattle that are fed exclusively on cotton seed do not make any feed for hogs. And another most important feature is that when feeding cattle in closed pens you have the manure, which is invaluable as a fertilizer for your land, and you will find every thrifty farmer of the North, with as many cattle at all times as he can take care of, as they are well aware they cannot keep their cultivated lands up to a profitable standard of production without the use of manure as fertilizer.

In conclusion let me say to you that the cattle men of the North and West are looking to the South as a possible new field for them, and, I warn you, that unless you keep your eyes open you stand a good chance of having many of your good lands, which are now selling very cheap, bought up by others who will take advantage of the opportunities you now have.

Mr. Downs also gave a demonstration on the athletic field, having before him a good, well bred Hereford steer, weighing around 1,500 pounds, which was being fed by the experimental station; also one red polled milch cow; also a Jersey cow, and one good, well bred Shorthorn yearling bull, which gave him opportunity to show and explain the difference in the relative value of these cattle as feeders to mature as beef cattle. He explained that a good feeding steer must have a good head, wide between the eyes, with a good large eye and large nostril, a short head, etc., all of which indicate intelligence and good conformation necessary for a profitable feeder. He also explained and had opportunity to show the difference in the coat of hair covering the good Shorthorn and Hereford which indicate a good mellow hide in comparison with the shorthaired tight hide of the Jersey which is useful only as a milk producer and of little value from a beef standpoint.

The students and farmers in attendance at this meeting were greatly interested and were thoroughly appreciative of the service and advice rendered by Mr. Downs and we are very sure will result in the improvement and betterment of the cattle situation in this part of the country in the near future, as we find the people of the South greatly interested in the cattle proposition as they are almost driven to it because of the failure of their cotton crops, which are destroyed by boll weevil, making it almost impossi-

35 BUSHELS PER ACRE
was the yield of WHEAT

160 ACRES
FARMS
WESTERN
CANADA
FREE

on many farms in Western Canada in 1913, some yields being reported as high as 50 bushels per acre. As high as 100 bushels were recorded in some districts for oats, 50 bushels for barley and from 15 to 30 bushels for flax. J. Keys arrived in the country 5 years ago from Denmark, with very little money. He homesteaded, worked hard, is now the owner of 320 acres of land, in 1913 had a crop of 320 acres which will realize him about \$4,000. His wheat weighed 65 lbs. to the bushel and averaged over 35 bushels to the acre. Thousands of similar instances might be related of the homesteaders in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The crop of 1913 was an abundant one everywhere in Western Canada. Ask for descriptive literature and reduced railway rates. Apply to Dept. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or Canadian Gov't Agent.

Geo. A. Cook, 125 W. 9th St., Kansas City, Mo.

C. J. Broughton, 112 W. Adams St., Chicago, Ill.

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POLAND CHINAS and Aberdeen Angus. We breed them large & smooth. Our friends made them famous. J. P. Vissering, Box 9, Alton, Ill.

ble for them to follow cotton farming profitably.

NOTES FROM GLEN RAVEN FARM

Editor Rural World: Today, March 29, we had a good rain. In fact, it has been showery for some time. Plenty water in the ground and plenty on top. I have been pruning my vineyard and pear trees the past week. There is lots of water standing in the vineyard now. I was looking the place over today to learn the real prospects for a fruit crop and I find most every tree on the place old enough to bear fruit, has an immense lot of fruit buds, that will be blown out by April 5, if weather conditions are favorable, or I should say, the peach, pear and plum will be in bloom by that date. Apple, cherries and blue plums will bloom a few days later. We have quite a variety of fruit, the ripening of which covers nearly the whole summer, from May to October. It keeps us all pretty busy with some hired help to get it in marketable shape and to sell it. I was cutting out considerable farm work—for a small farm like ours—such as making a preparation to seed some land to millet; plant a small piece of land to early corn; plant the cherry orchard to stock peas; raise some tomatoes and cucumbers, also some musk and watermelons. Cucumbers and muskmelons are not desirable neighbors. They mix too much, especially if there are many honey bees about. The bee loves the melon bloom. She is in the patch early and late. If there are any cucumbers near the melons will be mixed. I have learned this, and paid for it already. Muskmelons and watermelons won't mix planted in the same field, if the vines touch each other. We have a good market for all such truck, and there is good pay in it, if one is in a position to handle it. The local showmen and high temperature is painting the landscape green. Wheat fields and meadows look beautiful. A few days more of warm, damp weather and our place will be grown up with muskmelons (or murrills) that bring 10c and 15c a dozen, with good demand.

E. W. GEER.



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Seal grain Hand Bag, fancy ornamented frame, 3 pockets inside; fitted complete with mirror, bottle and coin purse. Just send your name and we send you 20 beautiful large art pictures to sell at 10c each. When sold send us \$2 and complete hand bag outfit in yours. We give surprise gift extra for promptness. People's Supply Co., Dept. R. W., 716 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Horticulture

STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

By Jacob Faith.

In answer to the question often asked, "will it pay to grow strawberries? How many will they yield to the acre? How soon will they bear? When is the best time to plant? What varieties are best?"

I will answer as follows: I am about the first who raised strawberries in Southwest Missouri. The old settlers in Nevada will remember me marketing strawberries thirty-five years ago. Some asked whereabout in the woods did they grow. I sold them at 25 cents per quart. It should now be remembered that we now have varieties that are more than double in size and yield per acre. Box material was more than twice as high.

The past year was the poorest strawberry year I ever experienced but I sold over \$200 worth from less than an acre. Many of your readers know where they grew. I sold them at 10 cents per quart here at home.

Best Time to Plant.

The best time to plant strawberries is in March or April. Cultivate well and the next year about fourteen months from planting, they ripen. I have raised three hundred and fifty bushels per acre, or four hundred 24-quart crates. Two hundred crates is an average crop. Land that grows corn and potatoes will grow strawberries, but like other crops the richer the land and best cultivated, the bigger the yield. Plow ground, as same as for corn or potatoes, harrow level and mark rows for planting. I mark rows for setting plants with a corn planter. This is about the best distance apart. The wheels make a mark to plant and press the ground like it should be. Small patches or in garden stretch a line. For setting plants a dibble is mostly used. I prefer a spade to make the holes. Stick in the ground and push from you. This makes a hole for the roots. Set plants one-half inch deeper than they grew in beds. If roots are too long shorten to about four inches. If ground is dry pour in about a pint of water, after soak in firm earth to the roots. Plants grow best if roots are spread out fan-shape. Old plants that have borne a crop are worthless for planting.

Set plants in rows 19 to 24 inches apart. In ordinary season with good culture they make a matted row. Plants should not be closer than four inches to make big berries. In cultivating fell runners in the row, each cultivating run a little further from the plants and level the ground. I use a four-prong potato digger.

I believe few land and lot owners did they grow a good variety of strawberries patch. True there are sorts that adapt themselves to our soil and climate. One year I planted and tested 100 varieties. They were a wonder to visitors. Some bore a few very large berries but not enough yield, some very many but too small, 240 berries having been counted on one plant. Some grew very many plants but few berries. I sold thirty thousand to a fruit agent at one dollar per thousand. He sold them for a good price. This is one cause why more strawberries are not grown. I see now that I did wrong selling such plants to fruit agent, who didn't care about good growing values.

Let me predict that this year many plants will be sold that are plant growers, not berry producers. Some of the best sort are pistillate, will not bear by themselves but must have a perfect bloomer within 20 feet. On this I could write columns but space won't permit, also the planter wants short instructions.

Varieties.

Of the long list of over 300 varieties I will name a few best for our soil and climate. All are perfect bloomers, bear by themselves, commence with earliest ripening varieties.

Excelsior, the standard earliness, by it all others are compared; very productive, firm, good to ship, berries highly colored. Klondike, large size, very productive, rather a new berry, very hardy.

Senator Dunlap, large in size, very productive, endures much drouth,

one of the best for family use.

Aroma, one of the best for late market. The berries are rich in color, one of the best to ship. Many other varieties adapt themselves well for our soil and climate.

Of the fall bearing varieties that will bear until frost. Suburb and Progressive are the best, but so far, for me, have not paid.

My advice is if you want them, buy only a few plants, let the other fellow buy and watch results, but I believe in time they will pay. I have bought new kinds until most of my teeth are gone.

Planting early varieties on a southern slope sandy soil and late sorts on a northern slope or heavy soil, thus strawberries can be had seven to eight weeks.

One hundred and fifty strawberry plants will grow enough for a good size family.

Fifty-five hundred plants will plant an acre. I have offered to raise 1000 bushels of strawberries for 2 cents a quart ready for picking, yes and sad is the fact, most farmers and lot owners won't grow enough for home use and think strawberries only a luxury for the sick.

The strawberries is the first fruit to ripen, the most welcome and for beauty, health and yield, is excelled by no other fruit.

If God made a more beautiful, healthier fruit outside of Eden's garden, I'd like to see it, or one that yields more profit.

FRUIT TREE BLIGHT.

Editor Rural World: I noticed in a recent number of your valuable paper an article on fruit blight, and also, during the past season, I have seen in several different papers articles published about blight, and they were very much at variance with my observations and experience in growing fruit for the last forty years, and more especially in the last twenty years that I have grown pears in a commercial way.

Fire blight is caused by atmospheric and weather conditions and not by any parasite or bacteria, nor does it live over the winter on the trees and make a fresh start in the spring by being carried by bees or other insects from any dead wood caused by blight or so-called by some blight pockets on the trees.

Has any of the scientific experts in horticulture been able to transfer blight from wood killed by blight to the growing wood?

Is it possible to introduce into the sap circulation of fruit trees any germ from any source that will spread through its sap circulation causing the same effect as blight?

If it can be done then the calomel cure by introduction for blight and others for insects such as San Jose scale might be possible.

So far as preventing blight the coming season by cutting out the dead blighted wood now, it will have no effect whatever, either for prevention or loss by blight; all depends on the atmospheric and weather conditions this coming spring.

None of those conditions rarely extend over sixty days and often not more than thirty.

The past season the blight on my pear orchard was light. There was a little in one location and on one variety in my apple orchard, and I had a fair crop of all my varieties except B. Trig and B. Davis. It was an off year with those two.

Blight rarely takes place while the Lucifer pear is in bloom, as it blossoms too early, but strikes the fruit after it is set and is as large as hickory nuts, often being a help about thinning out the fruit when the trees are overloaded.

In conclusion, I will say that it would be useless to grow pears in a commercial way if we had no blight.

I have found that it can, to some extent, be prevented.

There are seasons that we are entirely exempt from it. In those seasons of exemption it is easy to see why we are exempt if those conditions prevailed every season there would be no blight.

L. V. DIX.

Jefferson City.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN NOTES.

Pruning may be done any warm day now.

Is any attempt being made to put a

Unseen Forces Behind Your Telephone

THE telephone instrument is a common sight, but it affords no idea of the magnitude of the mechanical equipment by which it is made effective.

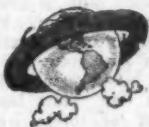
To give you some conception of the great number of persons and the enormous quantity of materials required to maintain an always-efficient service, various comparisons are here presented.

The cost of these materials unassembled is only 45% of the cost of constructing the telephone plant.



Poles

enough to build a stockade around California—12,480,000 of them, worth in the lumber yard about \$40,000,000.



Wire

to coil around the earth 621 times—15,460,000 miles of it, worth about \$100,000,000, including 260,000 tons of copper, worth \$88,000,000.



Lead and Tin

to load 6,600 coal cars—being 659,960,000 pounds, worth more than \$37,000,000.



Conduits

to go five times through the earth from pole to pole—225,778,000 feet, worth in the warehouse \$9,000,000.



Telephones

enough to string around Lake Erie—8,000,000 of them, 5,000,000 Bell-owned, which, with equipment, cost at the factory \$45,000,000.



Switchboards

in a line would extend thirty-six miles—55,000 of them, which cost, unassembled, \$90,000,000.



Buildings

sufficient to house a city of 150,000—more than a thousand buildings, which, unfurnished, and without land, cost \$44,000,000.



People

equal in numbers to the entire population of Wyoming—150,000 Bell System employees, not including those of connecting companies.

The poles are set all over this country, and strung with wires and cables; the conduits are buried under the great cities; the telephones are installed in separate homes and offices; the switchboards housed, connected and supplemented with other machinery, and the whole Bell System kept in running order so that each subscriber may talk at any time, anywhere.



AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

One Policy

One System

Universal Service

windbreak and a few shrubs about the school house?

Topworking apple and plum trees is in order now. Use healthy clones on which the buds have not started.

Golden Bantam sweet corn is one of the best early kinds. Planted every day or so until July 1, it will furnish green corn throughout the season.

Good seed and good, vigorous healthy plants are essential for success in vegetable gardening. They are obtained by careful management.

Sprays of pussy willows and cherry branches in water at this time of year are useful for decorating purposes.

Grow your own asparagus plants if they cannot be purchased readily. The seed is as easily sown as that of onions or radishes. Buy only the best seed.

Do not buy many novelties and do not expect too much from those you do buy. Some are worth while but many turn out to be old friends renamed.

If you grow vegetables for a local market plant only those of best quality, even though the yield is not quite as great as that on an inferior kind. Quality will pay in the end.

Plant a few white elm, hackberry, or basswood trees about the buildings for shade. They should be set as soon as the ground is settled and in good condition for seeding.

Soil has much to do with quality. Study your soil and use those varieties that do best on it. This is something that the individual must work out for himself.

A good useful flower garden should be a part of every vegetable garden. Cut flowers should be seen in the home as frequently as good pictures.

The hard maple is a splendid shade tree on account of its thick foliage. The change of foliage during autumn adds to its attractiveness. It is a much slower growing tree than some of the others.—LeRoy Cady Associate Horticulturist University Farm, St. Paul.

FOREST NOTES.

Connecticut has one and a half million acres of timberland, mainly in farmers' woodlots.

India is developing an important turpentine industry, though it does not yet supply the home market.

Only one wood, Spanish cedar, *Cedrela odorata* is commonly used for cigar boxes. Sometimes a cheaper wood may form the basis of the box, with paper-thin veneers of the tropical cedar over it.

The stringent requirement of the forest service that all sheep be dipped before entering the national forests has practically eradicated scabies on those areas.

The lumbermen of Maine in 1900 originated in this country the use of mountain lookout towers with telephone connection for the prompt location and suppression of forest fires.

The Tennessee State Fair dates are September 21-26. The speed program will include events for 2:20, 2:14, and three-year-old trotters, and for 2:17, 2:11 and three-year-old pacers, all \$1,000 purses. The above are stake events. Also \$500 purses for two-year-olds at both ways of going. The open classes for \$500 purses are 2:27, 2:19, 2:16 and 2:13 for trotters, and 2:20, 2:14, 2:12 and 2:09 for pacers.

MORE MONEY FOR THE FARM HAND.

Wages Rising Faster in the Country Than in Factories. Farm Values Nearly Doubled.

The money wages of farm labor increased about 2.3 per cent during the past year, and about 11.0 per cent during the past four years. Since 1902 the increase has been about 36 per cent. These estimates are based upon reports of correspondents of the Bureau of Statistics (Agricultural Forecasts) of the Department of Agriculture.

Wages of farm labor tended upward during the decade of the seventies; they were almost stationary during the eighties, and declined from 1892 to 1894, since which time they have steadily tended upward. Farm wages now, compared with wages during the eighties, are about 55 per cent higher; compared with the low year of 1894, wages are now about 67 per cent higher.

The current average rate of farm wages in the United States, when board is included, is, by the month, \$21.38; by the day, other than harvest, \$1.16; at harvest, \$1.57. When board is not included, the rate is, by the month, \$30.31; by the day, other than harvest, \$1.50; by the day at harvest, \$1.94.

Farm Wages Highest in West.

Wages in different sections of the United States vary widely, averaging highest in the far Western States and lowest in the South Atlantic States. For instance, the monthly rate, without board, is \$56.50 in Nevada, \$54.00 in Montana, and \$51.00 in Utah; but \$17.90 in South Carolina, \$19.60 in Mississippi, and \$20.20 in Georgia. The highest State average, \$56.50, is thus seen to be 3.2 times higher than the lowest rate, \$17.90.

This wide difference in the wage rates in different sections of the United States is gradually lessening. In seven investigations made between 1866 and 1881, the average of wages of farm day labor (without board) in the far Western States (where wages were highest) was about 140 per cent higher than in the South Atlantic States (where wages were lowest); whereas, in seven investigations made since 1898, the Western States averaged about 110 per cent higher than the South Atlantic, and in the past year they were only about 90 per cent higher.

Factory Wages Rising More Slowly.

The money wages of farm labor have increased relatively more than wages for labor in city manufactories during the past twenty to thirty years. A comparison of the average of wages per employee in manufacturing industries, as reported by the Census of 1910, 1900, and 1890, indicates that the wages of such employees increased 22 per cent in ten years (1900 to 1910), and increased only 23 per cent in the twenty years; the increases in farm labor wages were approximately 37 per cent in the ten years and about 55 per cent in the twenty years. This relative gain of rural upon urban wages acts automatically upon the movement from country to city.

Wages of farm labor have been increasing rapidly, not only in the United States, but in most, if not all, other countries of the world. In the Central Agricultural region of Russia the wage per day paid to male labor for the years 1901-1905 averaged 34 kopecks (17.5 cents) at sowing time, 50 kopecks (25.7 cents) at hay harvest and 54 kopecks (27.7 cents) at wheat harvest. By 1910 these wages had increased to 55 kopecks (27.8 cents), 73 kopecks (37.6 cents) and 87 kopecks (44.8 cents) respectively. In Hungary the wages of agricultural laborers increased about 60 per cent in the ten years from 1897 to 1907. In Denmark, from 1892 to 1905 wages of farm labor, with board increased about 30 per cent, and without board 22 per cent. In Sweden wages of agricultural laborers increased 38 per cent in the ten years from 1898 to 1908. For Norway we have data showing the wages in country and in towns, wherein is shown that wages with board, increased 19 per cent in country and 15 per cent in towns, during the ten years 1895 to 1905, thus showing a greater gain in country than in town wages. In Japan where economic conditions have been changing rapidly, the yearly

money wages of agricultural labor more than doubled in the fourteen years from 1894 to 1908 and increased 43 per cent from 1898 to 1908.

Land Values Have Nearly Doubled.

Although farm wages in the United States increased about 37 per cent from 1900 to 1910, land values nearly doubled in the same time; indicating that in the distribution of the proceeds from farming operations a larger proportion now goes to capital account and less to labor account than formerly; the interest rate of return on the capitalized value of land, however, is probably less now than twenty-five or thirty years ago. The value per acre of crop production increased about 50 per cent from 1900 to 1910.

The premium of harvest wages over ordinary day wages on the farm is gradually lessening. Thirty years ago wages at harvest averaged nearly 60 per cent higher than wages at other than harvest time; twenty years ago the premium was about 42 per cent; ten years ago, about 35 per cent; and last year about 32 per cent. Perhaps this is due in part to improved labor-saving harvest machinery, and in part to an improved system of farming, by which the labor demand is more evenly distributed through the year.

The money wages when board is furnished is about 30 per cent less than when board is not included; that is nearly 1-3 of what a man earns is charged to board. This ratio has not changed materially in the past thirty years.

INDUCING LATE BROOD REARING.

"My bees did not continue to rear brood as late the past fall as they generally do; consequently they went into winter quarters depleted in numbers, and I fear for the results next season. Is it possible to force bees to continue brood-rearing during the fall by feeding such colonies as are not inclined to do so?"

It is quite generally supposed that late feeding will induce late breeding, and so it will; but when the laying of the queen has dwindled away the last of August or fore part of September, it takes time to get her started again. Even a natural flow of nectar from the fields, if of short duration, fails to produce brood-rearing after the queen has once stopped laying.

Brood-rearing is never carried on during September or October, in this locality, to an extent equal to what it is in May and June, no matter how long feeding is continued, or how good the yield of nectar from the fields may be. And especially is this the case where the laying of the queen has once ceased, preparatory to the bees entering upon a state of rest for the winter.

Continued feeding will start up brood-rearing after a week or ten days have elapsed, and when once started again, it will generally be kept up as long as the bees can comfortably take up the food without becoming chilled. If we desire brood-rearing to continue into cold weather, it may be kept well toward winter by feeding regularly each day, and in all cold snaps giving the feed as warm as can be borne by the hand.

After having colonies come out well the next spring, where no eggs were laid by the queen after August 10 to 20, I do not now worry about this matter of late brood-rearing as formerly. Very late breeding often results in prematurely wearing out the vitality of such bees as are of the right age to stand the rigors of winter the most successfully, and in such cases late brood-rearing is a detriment rather than a remedy.—G. W. Doolittle, Borodino, N. Y., in "Gleanings."

WHEN COMB MELTS DOWN.

The remedy for combs melting down is to place all hives that are out in the hot sun under some kind of shade. This may be done by the use of shade boards, or, better, by placing the hives in the first place in the shade of a small tree that will protect them during the hottest hours of the day. Additional ventilation will doubtless be good also.

Some beekeepers use the plan of giving ventilation through the upper back end of the hive. This may be done by putting on a rim or super having two or more holes at the back end. These may or may not be covered with wire cloth. A strong colony will guard these holes the same as they would an entrance.

Weekly Market Report

Cattle Up; Hogs Lower; Former Readily Taken at a Slight Upturn. Hogs Are Somewhat Slow.

CATTLE—A moderate supply of steers and quality was largely medium to good there being very few loads of good to choice kinds and nothing on the strictly prime order. All grades of steers were in demand and during the entire session there was not a weak spot reported. Movement was active and by noon almost the entire offering had moved to the scales. In places an advance of a dime was evident on better grades of beefs. This was more plainly noticeable on beefs above the \$8 line that were not too heavy. The top was \$8.75, made on a bunch of yearlings.

Offerings of heifers carried a goodly proportion of choice kinds. There was a strong demand from butchers and packers. Market started out on a firm, active basis and the big end of the heifer supply had moved to the scales by noon. Strictly good yearling heifers sold a flat dime better, while in places they looked 15c higher. Medium to good kinds were on a strong active basis. Supply of cows was also moderate and the supply of choice, weighty kinds was not very large. While demand for cows was good and market was firm and active, there were no changes in prices. Bulls were in light supply and sold steady.

Both stockers and feeders were in request and sellers had no difficulty in moving their holdings. Prices were on a strong basis generally, although there were spots where some of the better grades looked a dime better than last week. A load of feeders which made \$7.75 was best for the day. She stuff was also in good demand and sold on a strong basis. A bunch of Colorado yearling steers and heifers sold for \$7.90, top for stock cattle.

Southern steers were in good supply and the bulk came from Mississippi and Alabama. There was a good demand for the steers and they often got action almost on arrival. The market was on a good, sound basis and trade was snappy. Prices were steady to strong. The Texas steers brought \$7.80. A bunch of Mississippi at \$7.10 was the best outfit from the Southeastern states. There was only a moderate supply of canners, she stuff and yearlings. Demand was good and market was on a firm, active basis.

HOGS—During the early stage of the market buyers took a number of consignments at fully maintained values, but when the order buyers and city

butchers retired the market became inactive. Packers started rounding up supplies after other competitors were through. It was an announced intention on their part to buy cheaper, and in this they were successful. Disposed of offerings through the packer outlet was unevenly lower than Saturday, with salesmen who sold on the late market contending that values had to be discounted a dime. Pigs which were ready sale last week were not in good favor. This class changed hands slowly throughout, with the "price tag" in most instances showing a 25c reduction.

The supply included a number of loads of Arkansas hogs, which experienced unattractive bidding from buyers. The best grades did not meet with as much opposition as the scrubby, soft kinds. Packers do not like them because they invariably show such a small per cent of kill.

The top of the day's price scale was \$9, which was paid for two loads that went to an order buyer. The bulk of desirable hogs changed hands at values ranging from \$8.85@8.90. Mixed packing and heavy, \$8.70@8.90; lights, \$8.70@8.85; pigs, \$7.10@8.00.

SHEEP—Despite the small supply, the general trade displayed a dull complexion. A goodly proportion of the aggregate, which called for around 3500 head, were consigned direct to killers, and this possibly detracted from the competition. At least there was not nearly the keenness evident as was shown in the price range last week. With the possible exception of a deck of Colorado woolled lambs that went to a city butcher at \$8.40, values on all classes of offerings were lower. Identically the same lambs selling at \$8.40 were taken by packers at \$8.15. This instance shows a decline of 25c on lambs, and those who sold sheep said the decline on sheep amounted to fully 15c.

HORSES—Another liberal supply of horses and mules. Estimate called for 1400 head. Receipts this year are far outreaching those of previous years for corresponding dates. Topy kinds of southern animals were going at values satisfactory to sellers, although the attendance of southern purchasers was rather limited. All classes of eastern animals were selling at good, strong values. Eastern chunks with quality found little trouble in getting spirited buyers to come to the front. Drafters were active moving types and were at satisfactory values. There was an extra good demand for the medium chunks and good quality kinds of general work horses, and all of this variety went at values satisfactory to the shippers.

MULES—Sellers claim they are going to have a good demand the rest of the week for the good quality, rugged mules, if conditions are not diverted from the present indication.

SEEDS

Genuine Bluegrass, (Poa Pratensis)

CHAS. E. PRUNTY,

MAIN & MARKET.

SAINT LOUIS

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GARDEN & FLOWER SEEDS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY.
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The Pig Pen

THE PREGNANT SOW.

The best results are obtained with young sows by patiently and gently accustoming them to being handled. Our method is to enter the pen with the feed each time. Clean the pen in her presence and teach her to know it is our privilege to enter the pen at will. Then when the little ones come she will not be disturbed at our presence if it is necessary for us to handle them.

Our main reliance is gentleness. No matter how much your patience is taxed or how busy you are, she must not be irritated into ill temper in the slightest degree.

Hogs are very intelligent animals and also very stubborn and ill-tempered under mistreatment.

They are susceptible of being taught as well as the horse or other animals, but the methods of handling are very different. They like to be humored and coaxed and even manifest a rude affection for man under gentle treatment. We are well aware that at times their actions are trying in the extreme. But we always try to remember that it means dollars to us to have our sows gentle and confident that we will not injure them.

If the weather turns suddenly cold it is worth dollars to us to have our brood sows lie quietly for hours under a blanket that protects the little ones from the cold. If a pig gets tangled in the bedding and is overlain and hard to get hold of, it is worth a great deal to us to have the mother raise no objection if we take her by the feet and draw her aside.

It is easy to handle sows in this manner, if one point is always kept in mind—gentleness in handling. Most any breed will respond to kind treatment. Most anyone can accomplish successful handling, if they will rigidly follow one rule. The rule is this: Never strike or injure a brood sow in any way to give her the slightest pain. After once being struck or injured a hog is ever afterward suspicious. No matter how hard you try to make amends or win her confidence, she is never the same and is likely to misunderstand an accidental move and assume the defensive at any time.

Many hogs dislike to be driven, especially through unaccustomed places, such as doors, gates or into a crate. They will often seem to stop and study, appearing to generally be correct in their decisions as to where you want them to go and then choose the opposite direction.

In such instances the loss of patience, for a moment by the herdsman has often cost a great amount of money to the owner. Patience and watchfulness are the essentials to success. The breeding of a hog has a great deal to do with his disposition. We have found that as a rule our best bred hogs are the most docile and the easiest to manage.

This is probably accounted for by the fact that they for generations have been trained through show rings at exhibitions and during shipments. That the best dispositioned hogs have been selected for the purpose, provided they possess the other requirements.

On account of limited space this subject of handling will have to be deferred till another time and we will pass on quickly to our method of feeding.

We now have them accustomed to their pens—have placed a plank, pole or board around the inside of the pen and across the corners to keep them from lying on and smothering the little ones.

We are now coming to the matter of feed, in which I am well aware we differ from most breeders.

Please remember what was stated at the outset in this article. This is only our method, we are not asking for its adoption.

We would now, according, I believe to the general consensus of opinion, be supposed to have cut down her feed to almost nothing but water and the (water thinned and heated to the proper temperature.)

We have done nothing of the kind. We have continued to feed her regu-

larly, according to our best judgment of what she seems to require. Remember we have not been feeding heavy feeds such as corn in large quantities, but lighter and more bulky feeds. Toward the latter end of pregnancy we have also fed oftener and in smaller amounts although on the whole they have received about the same amount of feed, or more if they seem to require it. Three common sized ears of corn per day we think is about the limit for that feed at this period.

We do not wish to have her approach the coming ordeal ravenously hungry.

Those rapidly developing pigs have been drawing on her supplies at an astonishing rate during the past few days.

She must be supplied or she will be weakened or irritable or both on account of hunger.

How many times have we not all seen sows jump up expectantly, at every sound of approach, knocking over and stepping on the little ones in her eagerness for food. I can think of no other cause so likely to produce this inclination as cutting down the ration a few days or a week before farrowing. If she has been supplied with food according to good judgment, she will often lie quietly for hours nursing and talking to the little ones.

After you have counted the pigs you can go about your chores, confident there are so many dollars worth of pigs there so long as she remains on that behavior. We never rouse her as long as she will lie quietly, nor offer food nor water until she rises of her own accord and appears hungry.

We then give water, but it isn't likely to satisfy. If it does not, we give her some dry bran and shorts with a little ground oats or barley added.

At other times we give a gruel mixture of bran shorts and a little milk, depending on whether it is a large litter or a heavy or a light milking sow. Her regular ration is resumed gradually and is increased after the first week.

From now on for several weeks is the time one needs to be an expert feeder. It requires the best of judgment and watchfulness to get these pigs started off right.

We believe that the feeding of too much corn on the start is responsible for more pig troubles than any other feed.

Should we be obliged to put a green man in charge of our herd, the first thing we would try to impress upon his mind would be that corn is pretty nearly poison to a little pig and should be handled about like he should handle matches in a hay barn.

By permission, in a future article, we will be pleased to tell how we handle our little pigs the first few days of their lives.—W. B. Berrin, in Farm Stock and Home.

The Shepherd

SHEEP ON THE FARM.

A flock of sheep when judiciously managed usually proves the most profitable variety of live stock maintained on the farm. For the pound of gain in live weight, good sheep are the most economical feeders that can be found among farm animals. Where a small breeding flock is maintained the annual yield of wool will more than pay the maintenance expenses of the sheep, while the increased weight of the animals and the increase in the size of the flock may be reckoned as clear profit.

Aside from the fact that they are economical wage-earners, sheep are also valuable as weed-destroyers and waste utilizers, in addition to being unrivaled in their ability to tone up the productivity of tired land by the uniform distribution of their droppings, which constitute the richest variety of manure with the exception of the excreta of poultry. Sheep can be turned into stubble fields from which the crops have been harvested and will grow fat on grain and roughage that otherwise would have been wasted.

For the farmer who is inexperienced in the handling of breeding or feeding

sheep, the best plan is to begin operations with a small flock and then as he acquires experience and confidence in himself he can expand the scope of his business. He can advantageously tackle the feeding game, as less capital will be involved and he will handle the sheep during a relatively short period when the weather is favorable and there is less danger of complication and loss from disease or improper attention. The farmer who has an abundance of rough land that will provide plenty of grazing for the sheep may purchase the feeders in the spring, run them on the grass throughout the summer, and then finish them for the fall and early winter market on adequate feeds of grain and roughage.

Good Scavengers.

Sheep are of great value in removing underbrush from a farm and in this respect their activity is excelled only by that of Angora goats. Given plenty of brush and grass, located in a region that is free from sheep diseases, where the animals are supplied sufficient fresh water and salt, the gains that they will make in six months will be quite astonishing. Of course where the largest gains are desired the sheep must be supplied with plenty of supplementary grain. The farmer who desires to feed sheep should preferably purchase western wethers or range sheep during a period when the market is right, so that he will be able to fatten the mutton-producers on a good margin of profit.

For the man who possesses some knowledge about practical flock husbandry the flock of breeding sheep is usually a profitable investment. He should never purchase more animals than he can conveniently care for. A few good breeding ewes and a good purebred ram will be enough to start with. The increase in the size of the flock will be rapid where intelligent systems of breeding and management are followed. Often a good ewe will yield twins, and triplets are not at all uncommon. It is absolutely essential that good blood be employed as foundation stock where the desire is, to develop a breeding flock of capacity, quality, and desirable type. Especially in the male side of the flock it is essential that good blood should predominate. A pure bred ram will accomplish wonders in begetting good lambs from grade ewes, whereas a scrub sire will merely transmit his own inferior characteristics to his progeny.

Under middle western conditions the Shropshire breed of sheep leads in general popularity. Males of this excellent breed weigh around 225 pounds, while the ewes range between 150 and 160 pounds. As regards mutton qualities the Shropshire ranks as a close second to the Southdown, while the early maturing qualities of the former breed are unsurpassed among the mutton breeds. Four-months-old lambs will easily weigh 40 pounds and henceforward to maturity

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an increase of a pound a day is not unusual. The Shropshire owes its great popularity to the fact that it is one of the best specimens of general purpose sheep in which good mutton and wool qualities are combined with fair grazing ability, early maturity, and pronounced fecundity and prolificacy.

Cross-bred or grade Shropshires are very popular on the mutton markets. Rams of this breed crossed on native ewes give lambs of the desired sort that fatten rapidly and butcher with little waste or offal. A flock of Shrops will average from 8 to 10 pounds of wool to the shearing per animal while in the case of exceptionally good animals the yield will be much higher. A Shropshire-ram-Merino-ewe cross is excellent from the viewpoint of the farmer who is breeding for mutton.

In case the farmer wishes to specialize in mutton production without special regard to the size and quality of the fleece he should espouse the cause of the Southdown. The small size of this breed is an objectionable point, as mature rams will average about 175 pounds while the ewes will weigh in the neighborhood of 135 pounds. As mutton animals the Southdown sheep are without equal, as there is no excessive fat on the average fed carcass while the flesh is of the finest flavor and grain, the waste is small and the bone is relatively fine.—Gene Day in Successful Farming.

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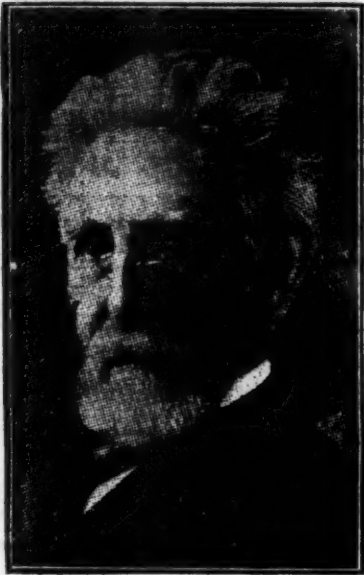
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Norman J. Colman,
First U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

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The warning sent out by the Missouri State Board of Agriculture and others has aroused interest in "tested" instead of "guessed it" seed for 1914. More seed corn will be actually tested in a practical way this spring than ever before—proof that scientific agriculture is becoming popular because it is profitable.

All lovers of good roads will be interested to know that the Missouri State Board of Agriculture is preparing to publish the proceedings of the recent convention of the State Association of Highway Engineers at St. Joseph, as a bulletin for popular distribution. Requests filed will be filled as soon as the booklet is printed and ready for mailing.

This is the age of co-operation. Without organization and co-operation the farmer is practically helpless. Every successful enterprise must have an organization behind it. Farmers should get together in every possible way; and the most important point is to stick together.

Germany has been much denounced for its medievalism in retaining the headsman with his ax and block, but it is to be observed that his services are seldom needed. And compared with the fact of capital punishment the method, so long as it is mercifully swift, is of almost trivial concern.

The most valuable cotton crops ever grown, and second largest in point of quantity, amounting to 14,127,356 equivalent 500-pound bales of lint and \$39,795 equivalent 500-pound bales of

linters, was produced by the farmers of the United States during 1913, the census bureau announced last week in its preliminary report of cotton ginned as reported by ginners and delinters to February 28. These figures compare with 13,703,421 equivalent 500-pound bales of lint and 609,594 bales of linters last year, and 15,692,701 bales of lint and 557,575 bales of linters in 1911. The department of agriculture's estimate, announced December 12, placed the 1913 crop at 13,677,000 equivalent 500 pound bales.

Every lover of horses will regret to read of the burning of 41 blooded horses belonging to Uncle Sam's service school at Fort Riley, Kan., Monday. Some of the animals were being trained as jumpers, and were to have taken part in the military contests to be held in Madison Square Garden, New York City. It is easy to imagine the grief of the men who were training these horses, because they were of a stock to be responsive to good handling. The right kind of trooper makes of his horse a comrade, and no other kind of man would be given blooded stock to handle.

After a prolonged investigation of the Miami valley and the valley of tributary streams in southwestern Ohio, where lay the cause of last spring's flood that devastated Dayton, it has been recommended by engineering experts that six great dams be built at specified points. These in flood-time would create temporary reservoirs and—at least so it is claimed—by the engineers—would hold back millions of feet of water, releasing it after danger was past. This plan is preferred to the widening and deepening of the river channel, which was the alternative proposition.

THE HAT-PIN MENACE.

Everyone knows that a hat-pin point protruding several inches beyond the brim of a woman's hat is a source of danger to anyone in close proximity to the wearer of the pin. Probably no one sees the more serious consequences so frequently as the eye specialist. Sometimes the injury consists of a mere scratch, which heals readily and leaves no permanent defect. On the other hand, every now and then the scratch becomes infected and serious impairment of sight, if not actual loss of the eye results. One who has seen these bad results is forever alarmed for himself and others when he sees a protruding hat-pin point in a crowded car or theater lobby or wherever people are closely crowded together. It ought not to be necessary to pass laws to prevent such accidents, but as the number of such cases does not decrease it would seem to be desirable to make the wearing of shorter hat-pins obligatory. There are devices on the market for covering and protecting the end of a hat-pin which are effective and inexpensive. Any jeweler can shorten a long hat-pin in a few minutes and at a cost of a few cents, and thereby, perhaps, save a fellow being's eye.

ALFALFA NOT A CURE-ALL FOR EVERY FARM.

Many farmers have been led through the excitement produced by alfalfa trains, and other promotion methods, to plant alfalfa when they never should have attempted it, according to specialists of the Department of Agriculture. These specialists feel that there has been an unnecessary amount of talk about alfalfa and too little actual attempt to demonstrate the limitations that exist with reference to growing that crop. As a result the department, while it is helping farmers to cultivate alfalfa and other leguminous plants by preparing bacterial cultures, is also cautioning its demonstration agents to teach the farmer to grow alfalfa where it is desirable to have it taught and where there is promise of success. These demonstration agents are particularly warned not to encourage individual farmers to grow alfalfa unless the climate and other conditions and the soil of the special farm fully warrant the experiment which involves an investment for seed and cultivation, and if the crop is not successful means a waste of the land over a growing season. The question of whether alfalfa will grow is not a simple problem, but

involves frequently a complicated group of problems which have to be considered from several different angles and by several different groups of specialists. Mere examination of the soil will not show what is going to happen with alfalfa. The only way to discover whether or not it will grow is to try it inexpensively in an experimental plot, get certain general facts in mind, and then extend the experiment to promising local farms with the help of the farmer himself.

Only recently the department had requests for 50,000 to 60,000 pounds of alfalfa seed for distribution to some fifty or sixty thousand farmers. If the department had acceded to this request, it very easily might have encouraged the farmers in that region to spend additional money for seed when they should not have undertaken the culture of alfalfa at all. The mere furnishing of seed is only the first step, because its successful cultivation calls for special methods of soil preparation, inoculation, and many other matters not commonly understood by those who have had no experience with this forage and cover crop.

Alfalfa where it can be grown properly is undoubtedly of much value to the farmer. In regions where it is already grown the farmer can gain valuable advice by consulting those who are already growing it successfully. Before becoming a pioneer in alfalfa raising in his district, however, the farmer would do well to consult with his state experiment station and so gain all possible information that will help him to make a success, or else obtain information that will show him fully the danger of attempting to raise alfalfa and make clear to him exactly the risk of money, time and use of land he is taking in attempting the experiment.

LOWER COUNTRY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WHERE ROADS ARE BAD.

Census reports show that in 1909 there were 24,000,000 children in the United States of school age, but that only 17,500,000 were enrolled in the public schools. This would indicate that there are several million children who are deprived, for one reason or another, from obtaining an education, and there is no doubt that a large number of those are prevented from attending school on account of bad roads. Furthermore, many schools in the country districts are closed for varying periods on account of the impassable condition of the roads, and many of the schools which are not closed have a nominal percentage of attendance.

While it is true that various factors contribute to increase or decrease the attendance at schools in given sections of the country, it is worthy of comment that in the states having a high percentage of improved roads, a much larger percentage of the students enrolled, regularly attend the schools than in the states having a small percentage of improved roads. In five eastern and western states which have a large mileage of improved roads, the average attendance of enrolled pupils in 1908-09 was 80 per cent while in four southern states and one northwestern state which are noted for bad roads, the average attendance for the same year was 64 per cent—80 per cent in the good roads states as against 64 per cent in the bad roads states. In the states first named, 35 per cent of the roads have been improved, while in the latter group of states there are only 1 1/2 per cent of the roads improved.

That improved roads would benefit our country school system, there would seem to be no doubt. Improved roads make it possible to consolidate or centralize the schools and to establish graded schools in the rural districts. Such schools centrally located will accommodate all of the children within a radius of from four to five miles. In many communities having the advantage of improved roads, commodious buildings have been provided, more competent teachers have been supplied at a minimum cost. For instance, since the improvement of the main highways in Durham County North Carolina, the number of school-houses have been reduced from 65 to 42, of which 17 are graded and have two or more rooms, and employ two or more teachers.

There are at the present time about 2,000 consolidated rural schools in the

United States. It appears that Massachusetts, Ohio and Indiana have made the greatest progress along these lines, and it is rather significant to note that in these states about one-third of the roads have been improved. According to statistics of the Agricultural Department, there was expended in 1899, \$22,116 in Massachusetts for the conveyance of pupils to consolidated schools, but in 1908 the expenditure for this purpose amounted to \$292,213. In Indiana, the expenditure for this purpose in 1904 amounted to \$86,000, while in 1908, \$290,000 was expended. This expenditure for transportation reflects, in a general way, the extent and progress of this new educational movement. It must not be understood that this is an additional burden, as the expenditure thus made is saved in other directions—that is by the decrease in the number of schools and economy in their operation.

In Indiana, Massachusetts, Ohio and other states, the one-room, one-teacher schools are being replaced by central schoolhouses, with a half-dozen rooms and as many teachers. Wagons are sent out every day to gather up the children and to take them home again in the evening. All of the children within a radius of several miles are thus provided with the most modern school facilities. In some of these schools courses in manual training, agriculture and home economics have been introduced, scientific apparatus utilized, and teachers having special qualifications and training employed.

MAKING BACON IN GEORGIA.

The southern states at one time years ago produced large numbers of hogs and cured practically all of the bacon necessary to feed the people. At the present time the same cannot be said of a single southern state and of but few counties in any of these states. There is one county in Georgia, however, that is showing others what can be done in raising hogs. Brooks county holds the distinction of producing and selling more bacon than any other county in Georgia. Recently 22 wagon loads of cured bacon were delivered at Quitman in one day. This amounted to 45,000 pounds.

Last year Brooks county raised the meat necessary for home consumption, shipped out several carloads of hogs, and in addition sold 150,000 pounds of bacon at an average price of 14 cents a pound. This year it is estimated that Brooks county will sell 250,000 pounds of bacon in addition to what is needed for home consumption, and the large numbers of hogs shipped to the markets. About 1,000 head of fat cattle will also be marketed from the county. The raising of live stock has not been accomplished at a sacrifice of other crops, but has been produced in addition to the regular crops, with the result that those who have taken up this line of work are becoming the leading and the most prosperous farmers in the county. The cash receipts for the live stock and bacon sold from the county is near \$100,000.

What is being done in Brooks county it is believed could be done in every county in the South. This would put the farmer on a better financial footing because he would not be dependent upon cotton as his sole cash crop. Bacon can be made a most profitable cash crop which can be marketed in early spring when farmers are in need of ready money.

NORTHERN FARMER IN THE TROPICS.

While the modern sugar mill and plantation in the Caribbean region is a gold mine richer than any Pizarro found in the mountains of Peru, the adventurers here today must bring gold and they must feed it to the tropics before these will give back their fabulous wealth. A writer in the Century Magazine makes the broad general statement that the northern farmer, lured by the careless profusion of the tropics, need not hope to make a living from this land, however, unless he has plenty of capital for the start. Enterprise can succeed here only on a magnificent scale, unless one is content to live in a hut of wattles, eating the generous fruits of the land, and no more. The northern farmer to succeed must be able

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to buy the labor of others. He cannot, we are told, wrest a living from the soil in hand to hand struggle. Everything eludes him, slips away from the grasp. The owner must be master, directing the work of others, himself tirelessly alert to guard against a thousand exigencies unknown on the northern farm.

The southern planter is in the very word that designates him a master. He plants his victorious flag, or his triumphant foot on the soil. He plants; he does not plow and till. This writer describes the charming home on a sugar plantation, with long, low verandas, high-ceiled, bare, cool rooms, with gardens and palm groves, with white-clad servants at one's elbow at a hand clap. But he describes also the eager, intent work of the owner and his white assistants during the milling season. Every man sleeps with a telephone at his pillow. There is no fortune won here by dolce far niente. It is incessant watchfulness, incessant work, in the season; and at the start there was capital enough to build the mills, to plot and plan the plantations, and to hold steady till the market was conquered. Not far away is a plantation settled by small northern farmers, which the jungle is already reclaiming. Air plants hang from the citron trees, the "viene paraiso"—come you and stop—trails over the plantations of pineapples. The convolvulus chokes the bananas and sugar cane. The very houses, built of the northern type, show that the people struggling there are plainly clinging to all their northern notions, unwilling, perhaps unable, to do in the tropics as the tropical do. They did not bring money enough to start on a generous scale and then wait for success. So amidst all the plenty of these rich lands their faint hope is some day, somehow, to get back to the north again.

SPRING VALLEY FARM NOTES.

Editor Rural World: Some time has elapsed since I visited with the readers of the Rural World, but have been a constant reader of its valuable pages, and enjoy the excellent suggestions in the letters of its good contributors. Many changes have taken place in those few years many of worthy contributors have passed to their last resting place, and among them was our venerable editor, who had been at the helm for so many years and his death was felt with keen heartfelt regrets, and we miss the cheerful letters of our dear Pearl M., but I have her picture and a poem pasted in my scrap book, also the picture and short sketch of our Mrs. McVey. Also picture of our associate editor, Mr. C. D. Lyon; also picture of ex-Gov. Colman, daughter, grandson and great grand son, and so many others, I use "Mark Twain's" ready gummed scrap book and find it so nice, and so much more convenient than the paste brush. We have had an unusual winter of 1913 and 1914. October was very cold, then very mild until February, and since then we have had so much cold and snow and high cold wind. The third week in March warmed up some, and the farmers went to work and sowed the largest acreage of oats that has been sown for a number of years. They also planted many potatoes, but the past week we had heavy snow and very hard freezes, do not know whether it will injure the oats or not; some think it will, especially those that are sprouted. We have a splendid prospect for peaches, but can't say as to other fruits, except raspberries and blackberries, and the drouth killed the most of the bushes. We had a very extensive and lasting drouth last year, that killed many apple trees, also some peach trees, and no crop was raised except wheat; hay was badly damaged and think the meadows will be for a time. Almost every farmer had his winter feed to buy, and will to make his crop, which makes it very hard, many sold off their stock as they had no feed and no money to buy with. Three drouths in succession leaves the farmer in a poor shape. It is to be hoped we may have a better crop in 1914, as the farmers are working with a will, trying to retrieve the loss of the past three years. Nearly everyone have to buy their seed corn and oats, and potatoes. Thank you, Mr. Lyon, we need a

few more advocates of good spelling and reading and defining. There is too much red tape, and not enough practical teaching now for the children in the schools. When I went to school we used Webster's elementary blue-backed spelling book and Webster's dictionary. Spelled morning, noon and evening, twice from the spelling book and once from the dictionary and every Friday we had a spelling match, and often of nights had spelling matches and used the dictionary, and if any doubt about a word the definition was given, and I think it should be done now. Now they have what they call "sight reading," teach a child to read before they know a letter or can spell, and it takes them longer to get started in their studies. I do not think a child should start to school till it knows the letters, and can spell one syllable. My foster son (and wife) Hugh Cavanaugh bought a farm near Golden, Barry Co., Mo., and January 26 they (in the language of W. M. Maupin, the poet) "flew the nest" and I am sad and lonely. The "biggest boy" flew the nest eight years ago, and lives at El Paso, Texas, and if I can sell my farm I will change for a warmer climate, I am getting too old to do the work connected with a farm. Old age creeps on and we do not feel equal to the demands of the farm. For fear I tire the editor I will close, wishing all a prosperous year, and success to the Rural World and its editors. Known to the readers of the Rural World as ZEPHYR.

ORGANIZES FARMERS' UNION.

Editor Rural World: It has been some little time since I have seen any notes in Rural World from Bates Co., Mo., which was my home for over thirty-five years, and as I am in a new country, amid strangers, a letter from my home county in your paper looks good to me. I left Rockville, Mo., the 2nd of August, 1913, coming to Powell, Wyo., and in December took up a claim under the Shoshone Project, consisting of 80 acres of irrigable land. There are a number of units still open and there will be more opened up as soon as the demand calls for it, which will be the coming year if settlers continue to come in this year like they did last year. All of the land in this valley is very rich as evidenced by the grain and alfalfa crops which have been raised during the past season. The offices and buildings also shops of the reclamation service are located here in Powell, and during the summer months the service employs several hundred men in construction work.

The climate is almost ideal with but little snow in the winter time, thus assuring us good roads all the time, almost like the city paved streets. Our main crops at the present time are alfalfa and grain and this year sugar beets will be raised upon a small scale to demonstrate what can be done in that line. Our market for these will be the sugar beet factory at Billings, Mont.

While this is a new country, it is not the country one would think it was, way off from nowhere, for we are on the Burlington R. R., and have schools with centralized system, where scholars are hauled to and from same, churches, lodges, farmers' telephone lines, creamery, alfalfa meal mill, stores, restaurants, etc. Another year we hope to have water works and electric lights, as we have a great amount of water power going to waste at the Ralston reservoir, only a few miles away.

We are only 75 miles from Yellowstone Park, and hundreds of tourists go through Powell every summer to visit this scenic wonder of the Rockies.

We have recently organized a farmers' union here, a branch of the Educational Co-operative Union of America, and have 70 members. Have made up an order for a car of lumber and our dealers here certainly got busy and used a very short pencil in making their estimate on the car load and succeeded in landing the order. By uniting, the buyers of this car of lumber have saved over a hundred dollars. Are making up a car of posts and expect to save a hundred dollars on it. Hope to have an exchange by fall so

as to handle coal, feeds, etc. I will write some more some other time.
W. W. DURAND.

The department of agriculture is trying to eliminate the danger to cattle from poisonous plants on national forest ranges. Of these plants, lark-

spur, loco weed, death camas, and water hemlock are the most poisonous. Larkspur does the most harm, because it is so widely distributed and is particularly bad for cattle. Ordinarily, horses will not eat larkspur, and sheep can eat it without apparent injury.

WHICH WAY, BROTHER

Dear Reader:

Must we part?

Are you ready to break with Colman's Rural World?

Have my efforts to make you feel happy and at home in our family circle failed?

I hope not.

I have done my best to interest, instruct and entertain you. Our whole staff of editors and contributors have given you the full benefit of their study and experience. They have a deep interest in you. I hope you have in them.

As I said, we have done our best to please you, but we can and will do better. Colman's Rural World is 68 years old and every year that has passed over its head has witnessed an improvement in our ability to render real help to the earnest farmers who read this paper.

Your friend at St. Louis.

This very number of the paper is one of the best we have ever issued, I believe, and I promise to make each succeeding issue still better.

Aren't 52 papers like this one worth \$1.00 to YOU?

BETTER STILL—Isn't two dollars a very small sum to pay for three years' subscription to a paper like this—156 copies?

I think so, and yet I am going to offer you an extra inducement to act at once. Send \$1.00 for one year's subscription NOW, (or \$2.00 for three years) and you may have your choice absolutely free of any one of the valuable gifts described below.

You see, I am going to fairly COMPEL you to send in your renewal before we are forced to take your name off our mailing list.

Now—we have shown our very earnest desire to keep you in our family. If we part, it's your fault.

August Frank

President Colman's Rural World.

Take Your Choice of These Useful Gifts

No. 1. SEWING AWL. You can sew old or new harness, saddles, canvas, tents, rugs, carpets, shoes, grain



bags and many other things with this awl. The patent needle is diamond point and will go through thickest of leather. Awl comes complete with three needles and reel of waxed thread, ready for use the moment you get it. Full directions with each outfit. So simple a child can work it.

No. 2. EVER-SHARP SHEARS. Eight inches long, equipped with a new and simple attachment that keeps them always sharp, and enables them



to cut anything from wet tissue paper to a horseblanket. Positively guaranteed for five years by the manufacturers and heavily nickel-plated. Every home needs a pair of these tension shears.

No. 3. THREE-BLADE POCKET



KNIFE. Made especially for us. Three

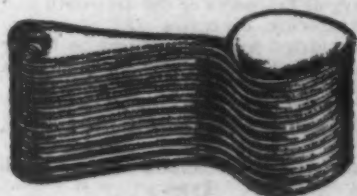
splendid blades, of very fine cutlery steel. This knife is built for business and is strong enough and sharp enough to rip a cotton bale or cut a sapling. Measures 8 1/2 inches when opened. Bone handle. Sent by mail, prepaid.

No. 4. BARBER'S RAZOR, imported from Germany. Guaranteed. Made of selected steel, hand-forged, extra hollow ground, 5-8-inch polished



blade, black horn handle. With ordinary care will last for years, and won't pull. You will find this razor nearly the equal of any \$3.00 razor. Sent prepaid, ready for immediate use. Extra good value.

No. 5. ONE DOZEN SILVEROID TEASPOONS, 6 inches in length, made of solid silveroid (pure white metal)



which will not tarnish, and lasts for years. The edges are handsomely beaded after the design of the most expensive spoons made. Made for every day usage and keep their brilliant finish.

PLEASE SIGN THIS COUPON TODAY

August Frank, President Colman's Rural World,
718 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

I enclose \$1.00 (or \$2.00) for which extend Colman's Rural World one (or three) years. In accordance with your special offer, you are to cancel what I owe for back papers and send me free of charge the Gift I have numbered below.

What Gift do you want?

Name

Address

NOTE—If your subscription is already paid ahead you can take advantage of this remarkable offer and we will extend your subscription from the time it is now paid to.

Home Circle

CONTENTMENT.

My mind to me a kingdom is,
-Such perfect joy therein I find,
As far exceeds all earthly bliss,
That world affords, or grows by kind
Though much I want what most men
have,
Yet doth my mind forbid me crave.

Content I live—this is my stay;
I seek no more than may suffice—
I prefer to bear no haughty sway;
Look—what I lack my mind sup-
plies.
Lo! thus I triumph like a king.
Content with that my mind doth bring.

I see how plenty surfeits oft
And hasty climbers oft do fall;
I see how those that sit aloft
Mishap doth threaten most of all,
They get—they toil—they spend with
care;
Such cares my mind could never bear.

I laugh not at another's loss,
I grudge not at another's gain;
No worldly wave my mind can toss;
I brook that is another's pain.
I fear no foe—I scorn no friend;
I dread no death—I fear no end.

Some have too much, yet still they
crave;
I little have, yet seek no more;
They are but poor, though much they
have,
And I am rich—with little store.
They poor, I rich; they beg, I give;
They lack, I lend; they pine, I live.

I wish not what I have at will;
I wander not to seek for more;
I like the plain; I climb no hill;
In greatest storm I sit on shore,
And laugh at those who toil in vain.
To gain what must be lost again.
This is my choice; for why—I find
No wealth is like a quiet mind.

A Contented Mind a Continual Feast.

The Editor Rural World: I have read with great pleasure a portion of the poem on "Contentment," and believing, as I do, that it contains the real philosophy of life, I herewith enclose the poem in its entirety, with a brief sketch of its author. "Sir Edward Dyer was an English poet and courtier; born in 1545, and died in 1607. He was employed in several embassies by Queen Elizabeth, by whom he was knighted in 1596. He was the friend of Sir Walter Raleigh and Sir Philip Sidney; he wrote a number of pastoral odes and madrigals, and is known chiefly as the author of a poem descriptive of contentment, beginning, 'My mind to me a kingdom is,' set to music in William Byrd's 'psalms, sonnets and songs,' 1588." Much of the work of the poets of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was of a very high order, and deserves to be better known and more extensively read than it is today. H. MORTIMER.

WEAR CLOTHES YOUR OWN WAY.

Fashion Must Be Modified to Suit Each Type.

Every woman can learn to wear fashionable clothes in her own way—can learn to wear them so that they will look like her own clothes, as if they had been designed for her. But she must, of course, modify the styles to suit her type of figure, coloring, and personality, says a New York Times writer.

Some women naturally make the fashion their own. Others must work long and patiently before they do so. But every one can learn to follow fashion without becoming a slave to it.

To begin with, stick to the main features of the prevailing styles. The hair is a good starting point. No one can look fashionable at present who wears her hair in a stiff, round pompadour all about her head. The line given by this sort of hair dress makes her new clothes look askew. Her hat sits up on the top of her head, and gains ugly lines because of its unexpected angle.

Hats are another detail to watch. The big, stiff black velvet hat, loaded with plumes, much as it once appealed to us, no longer looks in place. A

stiff, big coiffure and a stiff big hat makes even the newest and most modern dress look old-fashioned.

On the other hand, if the hair is dressed rather close to the head and a moderately small black velvet hat of good line is worn, even last year's suit takes on an up-to-date look.

But because you keep your hair and hat in tone with the present fashion does not mean that you need copy a French importation in either case. You can arrange your hair really quite unfashionably, and yet arrange it rather closely and softly about the head, and still preserve the present silhouette. You can make your own hat, and arrange your own trimming in a highly original way, and yet have the hat in keeping with the style of today.

The neck is another thing that needs attention if you would not look out of date. Some soft finish about the neck of your gowns at the moment is almost essential.

You need not wear minaret tunics and adopt the ingenu slouch and wear skirts that measure a yard about the ankles and bodices of tulle to look fashionable. If you wear a becoming hat that preserves the new lines, if you dress your hair with some idea of the prevailing mode in thought, if you look carefully to your neck's adornment or clothing, and if you wear your coats and skirts about as long as other women are wearing them, you can gain a satisfactory look of being up-to-date without observing all the details of modern fashions.

CELESTIAL VISITORS.

Editor Rural World:—There is a class of celestial bodies known as New Stars, which present-day astronomers appear to study but little, but which in past times were observed and investigated with much interest. These bodies are supposed by some reliable observers to be of recent construction. The celebrated astronomer Hipparchus, who flourished 120 years before the Christian era, was the first one, so far as we know, to observe such bodies, and since his time at long intervals during the centuries that have passed away on down to recent times, such objects have been occasionally observed and studied. Even in the Dark Ages, when all knowledge appeared to have died out among the inhabitants of the earth, such stars when they appeared were observed and studied to a moderate extent. But it was not until 1572 that modern scientists began to awaken up and appreciate the importance of such celestial phenomena. In the fall of the year mentioned above, a star of extraordinary size and brilliancy suddenly appeared in Cassiopeia. Its appearance was so sudden and its phenomena were so striking that it attracted the attention of the common people even, who gathered in crowds to gaze at it. It sparkled with a dazzling brilliancy, the color being white with a bluish tinge. In appearance it was larger than Jupiter, and as conspicuous as Venus in its greatest luster. It was faintly visible at noon day for a few weeks time. One strange thing connected with it was that its light was of such a nature that it was frequently seen through thin clouds which entirely intercepted the light of the other stars. After it was first seen it continued to shine with undiminished luster for nearly a month, and then it gradually declined in brilliancy until it disappeared 16 months after it first became visible. Another strange circumstance connected with this celestial visitor was that reliable observers had had occasion a short time before this blazing orb appeared to scan the heavens in that quarter, yet no trace of it appeared. Now all students know that all wandering orbs that appear in the firmament become visible gradually, and they also disappear in the same manner. It would be difficult to frame any hypothesis for the solution of such a problem unless we assume that the Creator brought it into existence about the time it was first seen. I know that most people will ridicule the idea that any world was in existence previous to the Mosaic creation, or that any world has been created since that period. A great many people who are not well informed upon this subject might consider such statements as atheistic, but if I had time and space I might bring forward much evidence to prove that creative

power has been in operation for a vast length of time, and that it will continue to operate for an indefinite period. It is in perfect accordance with the idea of a being possessed of omnipotent power, boundless goodness, and endless duration that the works of creation should never cease in their operations throughout all the periods of an interminable existence. There is nothing unreasonable in the supposition that the magnificence of the Creator's empire is being incessantly augmented, and that revolutions of vast extent, and operations conducted on a most magnificent scale are continually going forward in the remote and unexplorable regions of immensity. The sacred historian in the book of Genesis states that "God rested from all his work," but that does not mean that the work of creation was to cease forever from that date, nor do the sacred writings anywhere declare that creating energies were not in operation previous to the Mosaic creation when our world and probably many others were launched from the omnipotent hand. The idea that the vast regions of illimitable space were destitute of either matter or mind for millions of years, is a theory without foundation, and must be untenable.

I might make some statements in regard to numerous other new stars, and give some interesting information as to their movements and appearances, if acceptable.

J. M. MILLER.

GIRLS AFTER SCHOOL DAYS.

The tactful mother inspires the daughter to bring into her interests in the home all of her freshly acquired knowledge and developed talents. Nowadays, with the cosmopolitan tone of society, languages are important, music is always a delight if well rendered. These studies should be continued after the school days, says the New Haven Journal-Courier. Conversation, too, should be encouraged for the tactful conversationalist adds warmth and zest to every occasion.

MAN FREE AND GOOD.

It is quite useless to declare that all men are born free if you deny that they are born good. Guarantee a man's goodness and his liberty will take care of itself. To guarantee his freedom on condition that you approve of his moral character is formally to abolish all freedom whatever, as every man's liberty is at the mercy of a moral indictment, which any fool can trump up against every one who violates custom, whether as a prophet or as a rascal. This is the lesson democracy has to learn before it can become anything but the most oppressive of all the priesthoods.—Bernard Shaw.

MODES IN BRIEF.

Plaits, frills and gathers are strong points of every frock, but the separate skirt coat is mannishly plain.

The little jackets to match skirts are granted a wide range, from fussy little eton to full but strictly tailored effects.

Shell pins for the coiffure with heads beaded to match the color of the gown are the newest conceit in this accessory.

Jet and gold in combination will be seen on evening gowns. Frocks of gold and in dark colored iridescent spangles are charming for evening.

Plain colored velvet has had a decided vogue this season and is always charming.

Black satin ribbons in twisted knots are elaborate; bows will be seen on early spring hats.

Black moire ribbon is used to lend the impression of height to little turbans of hemp. It will also be used in the form of bows to trim turbans. It is heavy and will not be worn as the mid-summer days arrive.—New Haven Journal-Courier.

BETTER THINGS IN STORE.

There are better things in store for you than you know. In the calendar of your future, there are days marked for angelic visits. The angels may come disguised, but come they surely

SKIN TROUBLES

FROM SCROFULA

Among the many manifestations of scrofula are eruptions on the face and body. These are both annoying and disfiguring. How often the complexion would be perfect if they were not present!

Other manifestations are bunches, inflamed eyelids, sore ears, wasting of the muscles, and general debility.

Ask your druggist for Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great medicine completely eradicates scrofula and builds up the whole system. Get it today.



Vanity Case Free

Made of rich German silver, with fancy flower border. Has good mirror and powder puff compartment, places for quarters, dimes and nickels, also strong catch that will hold cards and bills; 10-inch chain. Given free to anyone for selling 20 large art and religious pictures at 10c each. We trust you with pictures. Send your name today. People's Supply Co., Dept. R. W., 716 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

BEAUTIOLA

The Popular, Magical and Guaranteed Beautifier. The rage of the age. Accept no counterfeits. Send \$1 bill and you will receive by parcel post Beautiola and Beauty Cream, with full particulars. THE BEAUTIOLA CO., Dept. C, Beautiola Bldg., St. Louis, U. S. A.

will. Yours be it, to have for them an open door, and a house where they shall find a home.—G. A. Merriam.

WORTH KNOWING.

Buttering bread or crackers on which cheese is to be toasted improves the flavor.

A few chopped dates added to stewed apples make a delicious dish.

If a layer of salt is spread on the window sill underneath the sash, windows will not freeze at the bottom. The salt should be renewed from time to time.

Put a little butter or grease in the water you boil for spaghetti. It will keep the spaghetti from sticking to the pan.

Grind up all the left-over meat, roll in thin squares of noodle dough, boil 10 minutes in tomato sauce. Palatable and economical.

AVOID DAMP HOUSES.

A prolonged period of unusually damp weather is always a trying experience for poultrymen. This condition is likely to occur again as it has once this winter.

The modern poultry house usually depends upon ventilation to prevent it from becoming uncomfortable from excessive humidity, which is an exceedingly difficult thing to do during a prolonged period of damp weather. Litter is usually of such material that it absorbs water readily and at such times as mentioned above becomes intolerably damp.

Because of the fowls' close and constant contact, damp litter causes more colds and cases of roup than extremely low temperatures, and it is on that account most damaging to the health of the fowls which can endure dirty litter almost to the point of filthiness with less harmful effect. Remove the damp litter at once even though it has just been put in.

No litter at all would be better than damp litter. Occasionally one must expect to find the weather against him. Even poultrymen can not expect to find it all sunshine. Make the best of it and supply new and dry litter at a trifling cost, rather than sustain big losses in fowls or egg-production, probably both.—A. C. Smith, Minnesota Station.

The Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station, at Mountain Grove, Missouri, is at present revising its mailing list and all persons desiring the publications issued by this station are requested to write at once. In order that the station may be able to advise you to best advantage, please state the number and kinds of fruit you have. All publications of this station are free to fruitgrowers of Missouri and all inquiries addressed to this station will be promptly answered.

GERALD, MO., NOTES.

Editor Rural World:—Perhaps your many readers would like to know how we Franklin county farmers are getting along after the long, severe drouth of 1913, with the good, easy winter following. A great many of our farmers got considerably excited over the drouth, and instead of taking the advice given by the Rural World sold their live stock, especially their cows, yearlings and calves, at a very reduced price. The consequences are cows are in demand and rather scarce. Had they heeded the warning given by you and yours, today there would be more cattle in this part of Franklin county. However, I must say that with the light winter and the early spring we are surely proving that we are thankful that it is no worse. Health is very good, weather fine and wheat looks very promising. Meadows are showing up all O. K. With the farmer in the lead, things are moving along just as fine as can be. Oats are being sowed. There has been quite a number of acres of land cleared and ready for the plow this winter. Everybody working with hopes of a good season and good crops. With that hope all seem to be sociable and lively—can hardly realize that we had a drouth the last year.

Farms are being cleaned up, fences repaired, pastures renewed, improvements are being made, roads looked after, land advancing in value and price.

Franklin county is one of the grain growing counties of the state, also there is a goodly number of live stock raised and sold. Being only a few miles, or a couple of hours' ride from one of the best markets in the Union gives us some advantage as well as encouragement. We like to read the good old Rural World, as there is always something in it to teach us better farming, also to be better citizens. It's good for old and young.

READER.

MISSOURI CATTLE THE BEST.

Americus, a Shorthorn bull, out of a Missouri-bred cow, a cow from the Ravenswood herd in Cooper County, has just sold in the Argentine Republic for 33,968 gold dollars—\$33,968.00. The Ravenswood herd was the first herd of Shorthorns to be established west of the Mississippi river—and this South American sale goes far toward showing the superiority of Missouri live stock. In the recent sale of Hereford cattle from the Warren T. McCray herd in Indiana, the highest priced bull sold came to Jasper County, Missouri. The price was \$3,750. Missouri buys and sells the good ones, so says the Missouri State Board of Agriculture.

Be careful about giving a hen, in March, too many eggs, the ones on the outer edge are sure to become chilled on a cool night.

PATTERNS FOR RURAL WORLD READERS.

In ordering patterns for Waist, give bust measure only; for Skirts, give waist measure only; for children give age only; while for patterns for Aprons, say large, small or medium.

9876. Coats for Misses and Small Women.

Cut in 4 sizes: 14, 16, 17 and 18 years. It requires 3 3/4 yards of 44-inch material for a 14-year size. Price 10c.

9877. Girls' Coat.

Cut in 5 sizes: 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. It requires 3 yards of 44-inch material for a 6-year size. Price 10c.

9882. Ladies' Apron.

Cut in 3 sizes: Small, medium and large. It requires 3 3/4 yards of 36-inch material for a medium size. Price 10c.

9638. Ladies' Dress.

Cut in 6 sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. It requires 6 yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size. Price 10c.

9897. Girls' Dress With Lining.

Cut in 4 sizes: 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. It requires 3 1/2 yards of 40-inch material for an 8-year size. Price 10c.

9887. Girls' Dress With Lining.

Cut in 5 sizes: 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. It requires 3 3/4 yards of 40-inch material for a 12-year size. Price 10c.

9886. Ladies' House Dress.

Cut in 7 sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires 5 1/4 yards of 40-inch material for a 34-inch size. The skirt measures 1 1/2 yards at the foot, in a medium size. Price 10c.

9896-9898. Ladies' Costume.

Waist, 9896, cut in 7 sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Skirt, 9898, cut in 6 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires 5 1/4 yards of 42-inch material for a 38-inch size. The skirt measures 1 1/2 yards at the lower edge. TWO separate patterns, 10c FOR EACH pattern.

These patterns will be sent to RURAL WORLD subscribers for 10 cents each (silver or stamps).

If you want more than one pattern, send 10 cents for each additional pattern desired.

Fill out this coupon and send it to COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, 718 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.:

Pattern No. Size. Years
Bust. in. Waist. in.
Name
Address



CLASSIFIED WANT and DEPARTMENT FOR SALE

YOU CAN BUY, SELL OR EXCHANGE MOST ANYTHING IN THESE COLUMNS AT THE LOW RATE OF

One Cent a Word Each Insertion.

In this department we will insert your advertisement under a classified head for 1 cent a word per issue. Initials and numbers count as words. These little ads. are read by thousands and give results. No ad. accepted for less than 25 cents, cash to accompany order.

SMALL ADS. DO BIG THINGS.

TRY A CLASSIFIED AD.

HELP WANTED.

\$65.00 to \$150 MONTH paid men and women in U. S. Government positions. Life jobs. Thousands of appointments coming during 1914. Common education sufficient. "Pull" unnecessary. Write today for free list of positions now available. Franklin Institute, Dept. F 147, Rochester, N. Y.

FARMS AND LANDS.

RIGHT COUNTRY, right climate, right people, high prices, right terms. Write Development League, Bessemer, Michigan.

FRUIT FARMS, good; also live stock, poultry, grain, corn, alfalfa; mild climate. Close to markets, schools, colleges, churches. State Board of Agriculture, Dover, Dela.

TEXAS SCHOOL LAND for sale by the state; you can buy good land at \$2 per acre; pay 5c per acre cash and no more for 40 years, but 3 per cent interest; send 6c postage for further information. Investor Publishing Co., Dept. 77, San Antonio, Tex.

160 ACRES, 1 1/2 miles from Marshall, 40 acres cultivated, 22 acres in bearing fruit, good crop now on, can give possession at once, good house, small barn; plenty of spring water, \$2,000. Ozark Realty Co., Marshall, Arkansas.

380-ACRE DAIRY FARM, 3 mi. from Ry.; well equipped. \$30.00 an acre. 160 acres 1 mi. from town; buildings, fences, fishpond, telephone, \$23.50 an acre. 40 acres timber and coal land near Swanwick, Ill. \$30.00 an acre. L. A. Griggs, Stanton, Mo.

SEED CORN.

SEED CORN—Boone Co. and Johnson Co. ear. \$3.00; shelled and graded, \$2.50. Satisfaction guaranteed. L. H. Gale Hayti, Mo.

CHOICE golden mortgage lifter. The corn grown for profit, tests 95 per cent, longest grain; smallest cob. Write for particulars. A. Hack, New Canton, Ill.

A LIMITED QUANTITY of Golden Beauty selected seed corn. This is a golden yellow corn, long ear and thin cob, matures in about 100 days and is a heavy yielder. Shelled and graded \$2.00 per bu. in less quantities, five cents per pound. W. C. Krieger, Edwardsville, Ill.

CLOVER SEED.

NEW WHITE SWEET COVER SEED—Also leaf tobacco. J. T. Mardia, Palmouth, Ky.

SWEET CLOVER SEED—Pure white and large biennial yellow. Prices and circular sent on request. Bokhara Seed Co., Box D, Palmouth Ky.

SEED AND NURSERY STOCK.

WATERMELONS, guaranteed pure Halbert Honey Seed. dollar pound; Rubber Rind, dollar fifty. H. A. Halbert, originator, Coleman, Texas.

GODBEY'S POOR LAND CORN is in a class by itself, weighs 62 lbs. per bu.; superior to all other sorts for meal, grits, hominy and all milling purposes. Make a bigger yield on thin land than any other sort. Price, \$1 per pk., \$3 per bu. Triumph, Nancy Hall and Portercia Yam Sweet Potato plants, price \$1.75 per 1,000. Full instructions for keeping sweet potatoes all the year around given free with every order. Tomato plants, all leading varieties ready April 1st to May 1st. Price \$1 per 1,000. T. K. Godbey, Waldo, Fla.

LIVE STOCK.

FOR SALE—Ten choice registered bull calves for sale, from two to eleven months old, from high-class, heavy-producing Jerseys. Write me for prices, stating age you want. D. S. Mayhew, Monett, Mo.

THREE black Percheron mares, young, sound, \$1,050.00, 13 months; short horn bull, well bred, unpanpered, \$80; Duroc Jersey swine; all above registered. For particulars, etc., write, J. E. Weller, Faucett, Mo. Inquiries promptly answered.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HELPFUL LITERATURE for Bible students on application. Emma Paschal, 305 Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas.

TEN DANDY cake and candy recipes. Ten cents. Hicks, 74 Pilling St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

RATS, MICE, Eradicate these pests completely. Stay rid. Easily done. Particulars free. W. A. Duncan, New Vienna, Ohio.

WISE POULTRYMEN coin dollars in winter selling eggs packed in our Preservative, which guarantees perfect condition for two or more years. Three harmless ingredients. Formula for 25c—no stamps. Mrs. E. A. Season, Kent, O.

DOGS.

FOX, WOLF, HOUNDS. List free. J. D. Stodghill, Shelbyville, Ky.

SCHOOLS.

EVERYBODY learn shorthand; 20 lessons free, including corrections and suggestions. Dougherty's School, Topeka, Kan.

POULTRY.

EGGS—15 fertile eggs, postpaid \$1; from pure single comb Brown Leghorns. Mrs. Kenyon, Tyrone, Okla.

WHITE ROCK EGGS, extra quality; also best new potato known. Circular, Sidney Schmidt, Chillicothe, Mo.

FAWN AND WHITE Indian Runner duck eggs, \$2.00 per 13; Barred P. Rocks, \$1 per 13. J. Gilbert, Webster Groves, Mo., R. 4.

SINGLE C B MINORCAS and Rose Comb R. I. Red. Stock and eggs. F. Kremer, Manchester, Okla.

FOR SALE—Full-blooded Mammoth Pekin ducks. Eggs \$1.00 per setting. Mrs. A. Brower, Rinehart, Mo.

EGGS from my choice strain of Barred Plymouth Rocks, \$1.00 per 15. Satisfaction guaranteed. Mrs. A. E. Glendinning, Maywood, Mo.

SUPERIOR, WINNING, laying, Single Comb White Leghorns, eggs, chicks. Armstrong Bros., Box 1, Arthur, Mo.

SINGLE COMB Brown Leghorn eggs; from select and matured stock; \$2.00 per 50; \$3.50 per 100. Rosa Simpson, Palmer, Ill.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, exclusive eggs. 75c for 15, \$4.00, 100. Well bred. Fresh eggs. Mrs. H. C. Luttrell, Paris, Mo.

SINGLE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS. Healthy, vigorous birds, bred to lay. Eggs, \$1 per 15. Anna Tombarge, R. R. No. 12, Lancaster, Ohio.

ROSE COMB Rhode Island Reds, eggs from range flock \$4.00 per hundred. Special matings \$1.00 and \$2.00 for 15 eggs. Hale Red Farm, Hale, Mo.

BYER'S STRAIN Buff Orpington eggs. Pen No. 1, \$2 per 15; pen No. 2 \$1 per 15. Cockerels and cock birds reasonable. Earl K. Weigel, Jasper, Ind.

INDIAN RUNNER DUCKS, fawn and white. White eggs; eggs in season for hatching, 15 eggs, \$1.50. W. H. Crabtree, Rt. 4, Box 60, Neosho, Mo.

100 PURE BRED Indian Runners for sale, white eggs, strong breeders, \$1.00 each. Write for prices in quantity. White eggs, 15 for \$1. R. N. Sanderson, Jr., Orlando, Ind.

SICILIAN BUTTERCUPS—No finer stock in existence; eggs for hatching, \$2.50 per 15; \$4 per 30. Frank Miller, Route 7, Oklahoma City, Okla.

WHITE WYANDOTTE EGGS for hatching, from exceptional fine layers, \$1.25 per setting or five dollars per hundred. Mrs. W. G. Krieger, Edwardsville, Ill., R. 4.

MAMMOTH White Turkeys, largest tom weighed 51 lbs.; eggs, \$3 per 12; Barred P. Rock eggs, \$2.50 per 15. Circular free. Geo. W. Wingo & Son, R. 3-B, Mayfield, Ky.

HOUDANS—The only middle weight white egg, utility, non-sitting breed in existence. Broilers first! Eggs, two-fifty. Illustrated circular. Dr. Dunne, Center Lane, Ridgeway, Pa.

SNOW WHITE WYANDOTTES; the world's greatest strains; red eyes and yellow legs; 200 to 275 egg ancestry. Eggs, 15, \$1.50; 30 \$2.50; 100, \$6.00. Calvin Norman, Dexter, Mo. Route 2.

THE EGG MAN'S HEN, S. C. W. Leghorns exclusively; heavy laying strain; large egg record last year. Making good in Mountain Grove laying contest. Eggs, 15, \$1.00; 30, \$5.00. E. S. Hinerman, Marshfield, Mo.

REED'S "IMPERIAL RINGLET" barred Rocks. 16 years' experience in breeding and judging eggs; finest matings, \$3.00 per 15; \$9.00 per 100; range, \$1.00 per 15; \$4.00 per 100. Fox hounds. O. W. Reed & Sons, Clifton Hill, Mo.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS—Both matings; eggs reasonable for the quality. Won 1st, 2d and 5th pullets, 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th cockerels, and 1st and 2d hens at Jefferson City, Mo., with 143 Barred Rocks on exhibition. W. W. Graves, Jefferson City, Mo.

SINGLE COMB Buff Orpingtons, Marks prize winning, trapnested egg laying strain. The heavy weighers and big payers. Special matings, 15 eggs, \$4.00; fine range flock, closely culled, 15 eggs, \$1.50; 30, \$2.50. John Tuttle, Princeton, Mo. Route 10.

FELCH OFFER—Thoroughbred Brahmas, White Orpingtons, White and Barred Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes from as fine flocks (both fowls and eggs), as fine breeding as can any other breeder offer to you. For circular address J. K. Felch, Box 176, Natick, Mass.

GLEN RAVEN Egg farm supplies fresh eggs that will hatch; Barred Plymouth Rock and Brown Leghorn. "Best team" in the chicken business, 15 eggs for \$1.50, 30 for \$2.75, 100, \$6.00. Day old chicks 10c, and 12 1/2c each; older chicks worth more. Circular free. E. W. Geer, Farmington, Mo.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS of the Thompson Ringlet strain. Eggs for hatching, some cocks, cockerels and hens direct from E. B. Thompson of New York. Pen eggs, \$2 to \$3 for 15. Utility flock eggs, \$1.25 for 15 or \$2.50 for 50, \$6 for 100. Dates for eggs booked in advance. Circulars free. A. F. Siefke, Lawrence, Mo.

Horseman

The sixty-eighth annual Caledonia County fair will be held at St. Johnsbury, Vt., September 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1914. J. M. Cody is the secretary.

To start a state fair at Altoona, Pa., Thomas G. Hazey has obtained a five-year lease on the Altoona driving park property. A company with \$50,000 capital is in contemplation.

John J. Brown, of Trenton, N. J., has arranged with Trainer Mart Wilson to handle the pacing mare Eileen Patchen (4), by Joe Patchen, 2:01½, dam Hallena Duplex, 2:08½, by Duplex, 2:17½, this season.

At a recent meeting at Vancouver, B. C., the North Pacific Fairs Association decided to withdraw from the National and American Trotting Association and form a new organization to govern racing in the Northwest.

John Wetzel, of Carlisle, Pa., former owner of the trotter Coaster boy, 2:19½, is looking for one to take the place of that horse, which he lost by death last October as he was coming home from the Hagerstown Fair.

A two-year-old colt by Earl of Chatham, son of Bingen, 2:06½, out of Olive K., 2:12½, dam Emma Offit, 2:11½, by Gambetta Wilkes, is for sale and can be seen at Connecticut River Stock Farm, Hatfield, Mass.

The twenty-four-year-old trotting stallion Decoram, 2:30, by Anderson Wilkes, 2:22½, dam Tattycoram, by Dean Sage, son of Hambletonian 10, died recently at New Castle, Pa. He was the sire of five pacers and one trotter.

R. S. Clark, the show horse judge, of Ebensburg, Pa., has bred Irene by Col. Strathmore, 2:12½, dam Katie B. by Royal Fearnought, grandam Comet, dam of six in 2:30, to Alliewood, 2:09½, the successful sire of show winners.

The prominent Philadelphia horsemen, Thomas White and Michael Sullivan, have recently purchased two-year-olds by Colorado El. (3), 2:04½, and Moko, respectively, which are to be named in the Sporting Sweepstakes.

Wydrad (4), 2:04½; Dallas, trial 1:10½, by The Director General; Bownet, 2:13½; Alpharetta B., 2:19½, and Frankie Green (4), by Miller Green owned by Joseph G. Brown, of Fort Edward, N. Y., will be handled this season by his son.

OINTMENT FOR SCRATCHES.

To make an ointment for scratches mix 2 ounces of lanolin and 2 ounces of zinc ointment. Apply to the affected part.

CRACKED HEEL LOTION.

For cracked heel in horses use the following lotion: Sulphate of zinc a half ounce, sugar-of-lead an ounce, and water enough to make a quart of the lotion.

THE HORSE AND STALL.

The horse would rather stand all night than lie down in the mud and filth of the stall. He will do better work if he has a good bed upon which to rest.

MARES ON FARMS.

On the farm where there is a great deal of work to do it is well to keep several mares. They may be bred to foal at different times of the year, and there need be no inconvenience with the work.

STALLION LICENSES.

State licenses were issued in Kansas for 3,500 stallions during the last 50 days. The pedigree of each animal was checked carefully by the State Live Stock Registry Board before the license was given. C. W. McCampbell, assistant professor of animal husbandry at the Kansas Agricultural College, is secretary of this board, and is keeping 10 clerks very busy handling this work. He has answered more than 4,000 letters of inquiry from Kansas farmers since February 1.

Occasionally a worthless pedigree is discovered. One man tried to account for six generations in 11 years. A case was found where the sire claimed by the pedigree was not imported until a year after the colt was born. Records are on file in this office of all stallions ever imported into America and it is possible to check any pedigree received. Property worth \$4,250,000 is checked by this department every year.

"Fifty-five per cent of the sires used in Kansas are grades and scrubs," says Dr. McCampbell. "In Kansas during 1909 more than 2,000 stallions advertised as pure bred were only grades and scrubs. The mare owners, realizing that they were being deceived demanded protection of the legislature. It responded by passing what is known as the Stallion Law, the purpose of which is to require stallion owners to advertise and represent their goods for just what they are worth. Under this law every stallion must have a state license and to secure a license stallion owners must submit pedigree and statement of breeding to the State Live Stock Board for inspection. After checking up the breeding and establishing the identity of the stallion for which a license is asked, he is licensed according to his breeding, as a pure bred, cross bred, grade, or scrub. This license must be posted in a conspicuous place where the stallion is kept for service."

The Stallion Law protects the owner of the stallion as well as the owner of the mare. Many times the owner who advertises a scrub stallion as pure bred believes that it is pure bred and bought it as such. The prospective stallion purchaser may be sure that he is getting just what he is paying for, if he has the pedigree checked by Dr. McCampbell before making the purchase.

CLASSIFYING THE SADDLE HORSE

At the National Horse Show last November there was tried the experiment of dividing the saddle horses entered into classes for short-tailed and long-tailed animals. This was an attempt to bring order out of chaos on the saddle horse question, where, instead of recognizing and accepting one or more standard types, as is the case in other countries, at least half a dozen types are favored. While the division by tails is a step in the right direction, and one likely to be adopted at various shows throughout the country, it is by no means an adequate solution of a very vexing problem which concerns an exceedingly important and steadily increasing division of the horses exhibited at the really high-class shows.

At present, saddle classes are divided mainly by the ability of a horse to carry weight; thus "up to 200 pounds" or "up to 160 pounds." This has not proved satisfactory, however, as, once a horse has won at the higher impost capacity, no matter how the animal may fall away with hard work and constant exhibiting during the season, it will still be considered eligible, by certain judges, even if the capacity has dropped, palpably, to 160 pounds. In fact, such an instance was seen not long ago, and the animal undoubtedly won on its prior reputation.

The dividing line in saddle horses can scarcely be drawn by the tail, or the lack of it, nor can it be rigidly held that short tails are correct for the park type, and long tails for the road type, any more than that the walk-trot-canter horse can be relegated to the park and the gaited horse to the road exclusively. These distinctions are largely dependent upon sectional opinion; the South and West favor the gaited horse, the North preferring the walk-trot-canter one above others.

Nevertheless, in spite of brilliant exceptions, the acceptable park horse should have the walk-trot-canter gaits, with good conformation, lots of quality and the manners of a high-class horse, the type being regarded as a rather impressive, spectacular animal, eminently suited to a five or ten mile journey at a leisurely pace. The road hack, on the contrary, must have conformation, quality and manners, and should be able to trot about 12 miles and hour and hold it, being also able to gallop if desired. This is an accomplishment not necessary to the park horse. There can be no ruling, logically, that any horse is "too good

for the road," such a conclusion is nonsense.

If the division of classes into long or short tails is to be continued, it should be reinforced by a still further subdivision as to height, and when judges, exhibitors and the public, are fully grounded in what constitutes a riding horse of quality, the question of capacity to carry weight can then be approached with success. The qualification as a "riding horse" is important.

An undoubted improvement would lie in the instruction to judges to "gate" at once all horses which are not acceptable on looks or conformation, linked with riding quality, or vice versa. This should be done after the class has made the first circuit of the ring. While demonstrating to exhibitors what type is desired under the specifications, it will also clear the ground for the actual judging. The road and park types may be separated, where desired, by rule specifications outlined by secretaries, and there should be specially arranged classes for amateurs and dealers at exhibitions.

Hitherto saddle horses have been asked to canter from the right foot only. Why should not the manners—or the lack of manners—be still further italicized by each horse being asked to canter from the left at the word of command.

It is well understood that the magnificent five or seven-gaited horse requires an artist to ride it and maintain the excellence of its training, while the walk-trot-canter horse is much more easily mastered by the riding student. There is no reason why these types should be exhibited in the same class, but—adequately judged—there is no reason why they should not. In many sections there is a growing tendency to ride hunters to saddle for road work, and at several important shows last season these road hunters were shown in the saddle classes. There is no reason why these types should not be shown thus, but, if they are lacking in conformation, quality or manners, or have not the capacity to "give a good ride" also, they should be permitted to gravitate to their proper level each time they pass before a competent judge in the show ring.

As a matter of fact the issue is rather with the judges than with any division based on the length of the tail. Unless judges agree on the riding horse view, the subdivision of tail is liable to fall through, as such length of tail is purely an accident, generally due to the opinion of a dealer who docks horses suited to the walk-trot-canter demand, and leaves undocked those which are better suited to the five-gaited demand. A good horse would win with either type of tail.


Taken as a whole the American breeder, exhibitor and saddle horse owner is rather diverse in opinion, rabid in likes and dislikes, unprepared to give way a single inch in his opinion and more desirous of being "let alone" than shown when in error. No real progress can be made under existing conditions.—S. W. Cousins, in the Spur.

ARMY APPROPRIATIONS.

Editor Rural World:—It is understood that efforts have been made on the floor of the House of Representatives to stop the use of any army appropriation in paying the expenses of officers and soldiers of the army in attendance upon horse shows. This attitude seems fair and just superficially but, when analyzed, discloses a proposition which, if carried into effect, will work lasting injury to farmers and breeders and to the mounted service of the army.

Competition is an unfailing stimulus to efficiency. While having only itself as a standard of comparison, the army was perfectly satisfied both with its horsemanship and its horses. But when the plan of participation in civilian horse shows was initiated it was demonstrated that both horses and horsemanship in the army were far inferior to what they ought to be. Beginning with the army's participation in these horse shows a sustained progress and improvement in equitation have been experienced.

The proposition to deny government support for participation of members of the army in these shows is fundamentally undemocratic. The moderate expenditure for this purpose in the past has been open to all qualified of-



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STALLIONS

—AT— COLMAN'S STOCK FARM CREVE COEUR, MO.

Baron Reaper 2:09½, by Early Reaper 2:09½, dam Expedition Girl (dam of Baron Reaper 2:09½, Miss Red Chute 2:14½) by Expedition 2:15½.
Fee \$25 at time of service; breed till you get a foal.
Baron Moko 42239, by Moko 24457, dam Axtelline 2:24, (dam of Fanfarin 2:11½), by Axtell 2:12. Fee \$20 at time of service; breed till you get a foal.

If this support is withdrawn, only those officers of large private means can take part to the exclusion of officers dependent for their support entirely upon their pay. Every desirable opportunity for professional improvement should be open to the officers and men of the army irrespective of the condition of their private fortune. The army should be brought into contact with the people as much as possible and every step that is taken to eliminate natural and intimate contact and relation of the army and the people is a blow at the efficiency and right condition of the military establishment.

The undersigned do respectfully urge that no narrow spirit of parsimony be permitted to intervene to preclude officers and men of the army from participation in the horse shows of the country. These shows are a great stimulation to the horse industry and redound directly to the material benefit of every farmer and breeder in the country.

Board of directors, National Capital Horse Show Association,
A. D. ADDISON, Secretary.

RAISING HORSES.

Editor Rural World: In answer to H. E. Tweed's article in the Rural World of March 12th, will say he can raise horses much cheaper than we can in Illinois. For the last three years \$75.00 would not pay for the feed eaten by a three-year-old horse. It will take for pasture when yearlings and two-year-olds \$1.00 per month, or \$12.00 for the two summers. The service of stallion \$15.00, which amounts to \$102.00, saying nothing about the extra feed and care of mare and insurance or risk of losing the mare while carrying the colt, or in foaling. This is not counting for risk of losing the young horse or the trouble of taking care of him. I raise from four to five every year and find, if sold at less than \$125.00, it's at a loss.
Sorento, Ill.
A. M. GILVARY.

THUMPS IN HORSES.

When a horse shows "thumps," give him an ounce of tincture of arnica in a pint of warm water. Repeat the dose in two hours.

A second cure for thumps is two ounces of whiskey in a pint of warm water, to be repeated in two hours. For racehorses, when overexerted, the whiskey is preferable to the arnica.

THE "ESCUTCHEON" SIGN.

Professor C. F. Moran of the Vermont station reports that studies were made of the milk records of 88 cows to determine the value of the Guernon theory of the relationship of the escutcheon to the milk flow of dairy animals. It is concluded that "the results showed nothing more than chance agreement." The wisdom of retaining this point on the judging scorecard of dairy animals is questioned.

SOLDIER'S HOME, SANTA MONICA,
CAL.

Editor Rural World: Being an old-time subscriber of your valuable paper for years when a resident of Missouri, and now a member of the Soldiers' Home, I thought a letter from an old veteran might interest your readers, and especially the civil war veterans. I came to this home in November last, from Tucson, Ariz. Was a resident of Vernon Co., Mo., for 17 years. Many of your readers will remember me, as I was the owner of the Gem City Fruit Farm, near Nevada, Mo. I wish to say for the benefit of comrades of the civil war, that should they contemplate going to a soldier's home that this is one of the finest homes in the United States, and is located in one of the most salubrious, balmy climates in the United States, where the flowers are continuously blooming the year round. This home is situated about two miles from the great Pacific ocean in plain view of the ocean, about 15 miles west of the great and growing city of Los Angeles, on a most beautiful body of land consisting of about 900 acres, and it would be impossible for a description of all its beauty to be described in one short letter. Three miles of beautiful paved roads and walks lined with thousands of beautiful shrubbery, trees and flowers. There are numerous fine buildings that consist of the soldiers' quarters. The library, wards, memorial hall used for an opera house. This I understand was donated by a civil war veteran. An amusement hall, where the veterans can amuse themselves in various amusements—billiard and pool tables, chess and many other games—and these places are all kept most scrupulously clean.

It is said that the old soldiers live to a greater age here than in any other section owing to the balmy climate. The roll-call at this home on the 17th of this month showed 2,570 present and over 900 absent on leave. Will also say there are ten national homes for disabled volunteer soldiers, and 17,000 veterans in the ten homes. The home has been under inspection now for two days by a party of seven managers, consisting of the following members: Maj. J. W., New York, president; John M. Holly, La Cross, Wis., secretary; Maj. M. Harris, New York; L. S. Lambert, Galesburg, Ill.; Jas. S. Smith, Bangor, Me.; Oscar M. Gottschall, Dayton, O., and R. M. Barron, New York, chief clerk to the board.

Not wishing to make this letter too long will conclude by saying it has an efficient set of managers. Our worthy governor has the good will of most every veteran. Of course, there will always be a few kickers, but I know the members are generally well pleased with their treatment and therefore the quartermaster is a most congenial gentleman, and sees that all have plenty to eat. Will say in conclusion if any old soldier wants any further information I will gladly answer any inquiry if stamps are enclosed.

J. H. LOGAN,
A member of Co. B, 2nd Nebraska Cavalry. Address letter to P. O. Box 346, West Gate, Cal., Soldiers' Home.

MECHANICAL MILKING.

Professor C. Larson of the South Dakota Station reports on the use of the milking-machine. Tests of the effect of the use of the machine on the yield of milk and milk fat were apparently negative when the machine was properly operated, although the results were not conclusive, except that cows producing a small quantity of milk was free from sediment, but slightly shortened by the use of the milking machine, while the period of heavy producing cows was prolonged.

It is noted that the machine-drawn milk was free from sediment, but contained more bacteria than did milk drawn by hand, due to the contaminated barn air drawn in by the machine. Cotton filters placed in the machine reduced the bacterial content. The soaking of the rubber tubes and test cups in a 5-per-cent solution of calcium chlorid saturated with sodium chlorid aided in reducing the germ content.

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THERE are a thousand uses for this instrument in every home and on every farm or ranch. You can see what your neighbors are doing who live miles away from you. It will bring the remotest part of your farm to your door. You can tell who is in a carriage long before they reach you. You can view and count stock on distant parts of your farm or ranch.



POSITIVELY such a good telescope was never offered in such a liberal manner before. These telescopes are made by one of the largest manufacturers of Europe; measure closed, 12 inches, and open over 3½ feet in five sections. They are brass bound, brass safety cap on each end to exclude dust, etc., with powerful lenses, scientifically ground and adjusted. Guaranteed by the maker. Everyone living in the country should have one of these instruments. Objects miles away are brought to view with astonishing clearness.

Used as a microscope it is found of infinite value in discovering microbes and germs in plants, and seeds, etc.

Heretofore telescopes of this size with solar eyepiece and multi-focal lenses, have sold for \$8 to \$10, or even more. We do not claim our telescope is as nice and expensive in every particular of construction as a \$10 telescope should be; that would be unreasonable; but it is a positive wonder for the price. Each telescope is provided with 2 interchangeable objective lenses—one for ordinary range and hazy atmosphere, the other for extra long range in clear atmosphere, increasing the power and utility of Telescope about 50 per cent.

Can Count Cattle Nearly 20 Miles Away.

F. S. Patton, Kansas, says: "Can count cattle nearly 20 miles away. Can see large ranch 17 miles east, and can tell colors and count windows in the house."

Saw an Eclipse of Sun.

L. S. Henry, The Saxon, New York, writes: "Your Solar eyepiece is a great thing, I witnessed the eclipse at the Austrian Tyrol when the sun was almost 80 per cent concealed."

Could See Sun Spots.

Rutland, Vt., Feb. 16, 1910.—Telescope arrived O. K. I have seen the spots on the sun for the first time in my life.—Dan C. Safford.

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From the Producer To the Consumer

THE COUNTY AGENT.

The work of the county agent has sometimes been compared with that of a doctor; even the term "soil doctor" has been applied to him. While it is true that the doctor sets bones, operates for appendicitis, prescribes pills and physic and various other amendments, yet the success of the doctor's work all depends upon a proper diagnosis of his case. Without this his dose may be worse than useless. When the case has been so thoroughly studied that it is clear in all its relationships, then a remedy may be wisely prescribed. We believe that this work of diagnosis is the vitally important part of a doctor's work. Even counsels of physicians are called on important and difficult cases that there may be no mistake in interpreting the symptoms.

Now if by the terms "soil doctor" or "farm doctor" we will clearly recognize that diagnosis must in all except the simplest cases precede prescription, the term may not be misleading; but any attempt to prescribe a remedy for every agricultural ill without making a thorough study of the situation or possibly calling a council of experts from the State agricultural college or experiment station will certainly result in a bungling job comparable only with the work of the quack doctor.

An interesting part of the weekly reports from county agents is the answer to the question "What important points are you now impressing on the farmers?" In no work is a man more beset by numerous and varied calls than in this county work, and one intent of this question is to help him keep in mind the fact that there are always problems of community rather than individual interest for him to help solve, and it is in the accomplishment of this purpose that he best serves his county. Answers such as "Value of farm literature to the practical farmer," "Good seed," "Cow testing," "Plans for next year" are coming in from every section and are easily an explanation of the county agents rapid growth in popularity and the general feeling that his work is permanent.

A number of the agricultural papers are devoting a special department to the county agriculturist work. A most gratifying development in this work is the hearty approval of the agricultural papers. It aids us in promoting one of our chief purposes—that of co-operation of all forces working for improved agriculture. This paper states that its farm readers feel that this is an exceedingly valuable department of the paper.

The different agencies at work for the farmer seem generally to realize that the county agent is the "point of contact" connecting research work and the farmer that has been so long needed, and if this new movement is finally as successful as now seems apparent, it will be largely because of the pervading spirit voiced in the following remark by the Orange Judd Farmer: "Let us all work together to make this agricultural feature valuable to every man who owns or farms land."

In Massachusetts, under the direction of Dr. R. W. Stimson as agent for the State Board of Education, there has been developed a plan for county agricultural schools which is being copied in several other States. The particular feature attracting attention is the association of the work of the class-room and school proper with the home farm of the students.

Each student of agriculture is required to present a project of some farm enterprise which he will conduct on the home farm under the direction of the agricultural instructor. This project is just as much a part of his school work as any class room instruction. The instructor visits the student's home and supervises the work, but the student himself is responsible for the proper performance of the work and must report upon the same. This brings the instructor into direct relationship with actual farm practice. The work being done by these agricultural instructors is

so similar to the work being done by our county agents that our office is to appoint as collaborators those who may be approved by our State leader in Massachusetts. This will result in bringing into the closest relationship the work of the State Agricultural College, the State Board of Education, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. A working memorandum of understanding has been prepared which brings under the supervision of the State leader the work of the agricultural instructors in their relationship with farmers, except that which actually relates to the work of their students on their home projects.

Farmers' Week at Ithaca, N. Y., brought together all the county agents for conference. Under the leadership of Prof. M. C. Burritt the farm bureau work is progressing rapidly in the State. Twenty-three counties are now organized and have agents at work and other counties are organizing as rapidly as they can be cared for.

The important thing that State Leader Burritt is working for is efficient county organization before the agent is employed. He is insisting that there shall be a farm bureau association with a membership which shall be fairly representative of the farming interests of the county. No matter how much interest the professional and business men of the city may take in the farm bureau work, an active interest on the part of the farmers themselves is necessary if the bureau is to meet with any great measure of success. The farmers must feel that the farm bureau is theirs; that it is an institution not merely for the purpose of bestowing benefits upon them, but through and with which they may work co-operatively for securing the benefits to which they are justly entitled as a community.

In Monroe County, N. Y., Mr. Lewis A. Toan, county agent, reports an interesting development of the Farm Bureau work. One of the important industries of the county is market gardening in what is known as the Irondequoit Section, just out of Rochester. These market gardeners have had various troubles in connection with their work especially with diseases and insects attacking their plants in the greenhouses. The Farm Bureau agent could not give the attention and the expert advice which these market gardeners required, so they have organized as a branch of the Farm Bureau Association and are to secure the services of

an expert who shall devote his entire time to the interests of the market gardeners. The Farm Bureau Association of the county has agreed that for every dollar received in the membership from Irondequoit they will give back \$2 to be used in solving their problems.

The University of Rochester is assisting in this work and has agreed to hire a specialist to study plant diseases of the greenhouses. The university will pay his salary and appoint him as a professor in the university. The market gardeners who are willing to co-operate will allow him to study the problems in their greenhouses. This seems to be a very hopeful development of the farm bureau work.

The organization and successful operation of a farmers' co-operative laundry at Chatfield, Minn., is a matter of interest to county agents generally. No one thing, perhaps, would do more to lighten the burden of the overworked farm woman than the elimination of "blue Monday." The laundry at Chatfield is operated in connection with a co-operative creamery and manned by the same officers and directors. The two companies are run separately, the laundry paying a reasonable rental to the creamery for the use of a part of the building. Modern laundry machinery was installed at an expense of \$2,600 and an experienced laundry worker employed as superintendent. Seventy per cent of the stock is owned by farmers. During the first year of operation, which has just closed, the receipts were \$5,403. Seventy percent of this was paid out for wages. A 10 per cent dividend to patrons was declared and 6 per cent additional to stockholders.

Chatfield is only a small village and the laundry is almost purely an open country proposition. Coarse clothing of all sorts—overalls, rugs, bed clothing, as well as the finer fabrics—are handled at a charge of five cents per pound for washing and ironing. An extra charge is made for ironing fancy pieces by hand.

This is the first farmers' co-operative laundry in the United States and its success is encouraging to rural workers everywhere. The county agent can do a splendid service to his people as a propagandist in this matter.

"The Houghton County Potato Growers Association was organized in January, the articles of which provide for the growing and marketing of seed potatoes, specializing at first with the Irish Cobbler as an early and the Sir Walter Raleigh as a medium late variety. Provision is made for a system of inspection which will enable the association to guarantee the seed potatoes to be pure bred and free from diseases, and each member will be furnished with a

copyrighted shipping tag with a number referring to such member. Two members from each of the four principal localities in the county, together with the county agent, constitute the inspection committees, and the several committees, together with the officers of the association, constitute the executive committee. No membership fees or dues are charged, but each member must become a member of the Houghton County Farm Bureau. To defray the expenses members of the association pay a fee of five cents for each bushel of certified seed potatoes sold by the association and an assessment may be levied up to about one-half of such fees. It

FREE WATCH



Our fully guaranteed Watch is highly engraved, stem-wind, stem set, simulated gold finish; desirable size for ladies or gents; late thin model, fancy bevel, new design. Given free for selling only 20 large, beautiful art and religious pictures at 10c each. We trust you with pictures until sold. Send name today. We give a surprise gift for promptness.

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Enclosed find 50c. Send me The Kansas City Weekly Post for one year, and send me the \$2.00 Razor, postage prepaid, as per your offer.

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Town.....State.....

CABBAGE, TOMATO AND SWEET POTATO PLANTS FREE

WITH YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO TRI-WEEKLY CONSTITUTION

OUR THREE GENEROUS OFFERS—TAKE YOUR CHOICE

OFFER NO. 1.

33 Cabbage Plants,
33 Tomato Plants,
33 Sweet Potato Plants,
sent by mail, prepaid, with Tri-Weekly one year, ALL for \$1.00

OFFER NO. 2.

YOUR CHOICE OF—
100 Cabbage Plants, or
100 Tomato Plants, or
100 Sweet Potato Plants,
sent by mail, prepaid, with Tri-Weekly 1 year for \$1.00.

OFFER NO. 3.

YOUR CHOICE OF—
250 Cabbage Plants, or
250 Tomato Plants, or
250 Sweet Potato Plants,
you pay express on same, with Tri-Weekly 1 year for \$1.00.

A CHANCE TO GET YOUR HOME GARDEN PLANTS FREE

The above offers give you a wide choice. If you simply want plants for your own garden use Offer No. 1 will appeal to you, as it gives you 33 plants of each sent postage free with your year's subscription to The Tri-Weekly Constitution. If you want to go in a little stronger on some particular one of the plants mentioned, preferring 100 plants of just one kind, then, take your choice of one of the three as mentioned in Offer No. 2, by which you may receive 100 of the kind you want postage free with your year's subscription. If you want to go into gardening on a large scale with one of the plants mentioned as a specialty, there is Offer No. 3, by which you may receive 250 plants

free with your year's subscription to The Tri-Weekly, but on this offer you must pay the express charges; 250 plants do not come by mail; don't forget that.

The cabbage plants are ready for shipment right now, but the tomato and sweet potato plants will not be shipped until April 15, when the weather is more stable and certain. This is an advantage and protection to you upon which the plant raisers insist. However, you can send in your order now and get it on the plant shippers' books, thus avoiding later delay. April 15 will be here before you know it, and by the time you get your ground ready the plants will be in your mail box, if you take one of the sent-by-mail

offers, or at the express office if you want a large quantity and are willing to pay the express yourself.

The varieties offered are: Tomato Plants—Spark's Earliana, Chalk's Early Jewel, Livingston's Globe and Livingston's Stone. Sweet Potato Plants—White Yam and Yellow Yam. Cabbage Plants—Early Jersey, Wakefield, Succession, August Trucker, Short Stammed Flat Dutch and Charleston Large Type. Never before has such a complete Home Garden Offer been made. The chance to get these plants free of charge with a year's subscription to The Tri-Weekly at \$1.00 has caught the popular fancy, and if you want to take advantage of it you must act at once.

Make your order plain and send it today. Address Tri-Weekly Constitution, Atlanta, Ga.

will be the aim of the association to sell to farmers rather than to dealers."—From Weekly Report of L. M. Wismar, Houghton County, Mich.

FACTS.

United We Stand; Divided We Fall.

Editor Rural World: Men are constantly laboring to satisfy their wants. Wealth is that which is transferable; something that is wanted, and that which we will sacrifice something to get.

Market is the exchange of one thing for another.

Three things are required to produce wealth:

Land, or natural resources.

Labor.

Capital.

Capital is that part of wealth devoted to producing other wealth.

If a laborer goes to work, with only one biscuit, the biscuit is his capital.

The stronger labor and capital are organized the better they can co-operate to the good of all.

After labor and capital produce; they then want a market for their productions.

Our well organized industries feed the supply to the demand.

It is much better for organized producer to sell direct to organized consumer, rather than sell to speculators and manipulators. It is better for both producer and consumer.

It is to consumers' interest that labor and capital do well, so they can continue to do well.

All food and clothing come from the farm.

The world is crying for better organization in production and marketing farm produce.

"Idleness is the devil's work shop," whether of the idle rich or idle poor.

Organization, justice, education is this page devoted.

Organization is the watchword of American advancement.

Farmers must organize, standardize and advertise.

"He that does not work should not eat."

It is impossible to be a true man unorganized.

As fast as you appreciate organization will organization be yours.

You should have an organizer at your point.

VIRGIL WIRT.

FARMERS' EQUITY UNION.

Editor Rural World: Many readers of Colman's Rural World are members of the above union, as Colman's Rural World used to be the official organ.

The Farmers' Equity Union has now, its own paper, the Equity Union Exchange, published at Greenville, Illinois.

For the benefit of new subscribers we give below:

Object.

The object of this union are to promote intelligence, morality, sociability and fraternalism among its members and to secure fair dealing in all the business relations of farm and mercantile life—the chief object is co-operation in buying and selling all products of the farm and all merchandise. Co-operation to the advantage of all our members is our chief object. The work of this organization shall be strictly educational.

The Farmers' Equity Union is organizing locals in ten states: Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Missouri and Colorado.

This union yet young is strongest in Kansas and the Dakotas as it has followed pretty closely the wheat section and has some thriving elevators.

This union follows very closely the Rochdale system in buying and selling; that is paying interest on patronage and not over five per cent on stock. The greatest hardship this union has is the laws of several states are not so framed to protect the patronage plan.

This union was represented at its last convention by the Springfield Federation of Labor and it has been found out that Illinois must have its laws changed before it is safe to conduct the patronage plan. The Illinois State Federation has taken the matter up and have gotten the co-operation of as many farmers as possible in Illinois to try to get the next legislature to act on this point.

This union, only three years old saved for its members last year almost a million dollars.

The president, C. O. Drayton, has been interested in farm organizations the greater part of his life and his strong point is the patronage plan of paying dividends and as this is the only moral way business can be run, it is bound to win in time and laws must come to its aid as the people will demand it.

Including elevators and warehouses this union has 80 exchanges and the rest of the locals coming along nicely except one or two.

This is a mighty good showing for a union of its age and its following so closely the Rochdale plan is what makes consumers seek its produce.

The consumer has long been educated on the Rochdale plan and the farmer must be, and laws must be so shaped for as soon as enough people are educated they will demand it.

The national union has an expert buyer of farm machinery and by its organized patronage has made some good deals in coal, fence, etc.

It also sells direct from one local to another, thus eliminating a long line of middle-men and saving transportation.

It contemplates selling direct to consumer in the same manner, that is why the consumer is so anxious.

In Indiana under Organizer Tom Line, this union is about ready to sell direct to consumer in Ft. Wayne.

Farmers, remember when you organize, follow the Rochdale plan, as it is the only plan that has gained true success here or abroad. And again, if you organize at your point on the old capitalistic plan, you will not get the sympathy or patronage nearly as quick from the ultimate consumer.

Remember the U. S. Department of Agriculture says, organize, standardize and advertise.

Virgen, Ill.

VIRGIL WIRT.

P. S.—The Farmers' Equity Union charter was obtained under the laws of Illinois and if members stick to it they cannot go wrong even if laws would permit it.

V. I. WIRT.

PARCEL POST WILL HELP TO BRING PRODUCER AND CONSUMER TOGETHER.

Postmaster Colin M. Selph, of St. Louis, Mo., has received instructions from Postmaster-General Burleson to prepare and organize his office so as to be an intermediary between the produce farmer, dairyman and poultryman, and the consumer living in St. Louis.

Lists will be printed containing the names of all farmers in Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Arkansas and Oklahoma, who wish to ship eggs, butter and general produce to consumers in St. Louis via parcel post service. These lists will be distributed by letter carriers to patrons of the St. Louis post-office or supplied to consumers in St. Louis on application. Postmaster Selph has sent out a request to the farmers, dairymen and poultrymen of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Arkansas and Oklahoma to send in their names and addresses and the kind of produce handled, also whether they handle butter, eggs, general produce, fruits, etc. Postmaster-General Burleson is very much interested in this new scheme to bring the producer and consumer together by direct sale and delivery through parcel post and has instructed Postmaster Selph to use every possible means to obtain the information from the farmers in relation to what they grow and produce and to give the plan the widest publicity.

Those who desire to have their names included in the produce list should send same to Postmaster Selph at once. He will publish not later than the sixth of April, a Bulletin for distribution, and thereafter will publish same semi-monthly, containing full information.

Consumers in St. Louis who desire lists should make application now.

WHY HAVE TWO PAPERS?

Editor Rural World: The Farmers' Equity Union readers can surely see it is wise to have two papers to tell your views through.

It is perfectly right and just for any organization to have its own official organ but nevertheless it is wise for a farmers' organization to also have an up-to-date agricultural paper for, if for any reason the official organ would get one-sided or wrong in

FARMERS EQUITY UNION COAL

Blackbrier—Highgrade
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From our Illinois mines—Now used by many branches of the Farmers' Equity Union in the different States.

Reference: Mr. C. O. Drayton, National President Farmers' Equity Union. For prices, freight rates and any desired information, write to us.

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its views, or would keep certain views out that a large number of members might wish published, then these members would have the agricultural paper to fall back upon. Of course this might never happen, then again it might. These papers come every week and we should value them more than any other one thing.

The official organ we get free as being a member in good standing; the agriculture paper we should be glad to pay for as to be sure of being doubly safe.

The National Union never advised the members to stay with the old agriculture paper that stood by the National Union when it could not support an official organ, but I think it will, in fact I know the members can demand this.

Suppose some locals wished something acted upon at next convention and the National Union did not deem proper to discuss, if you could not get space in official paper what would you do to make your demands known?

We surely believe that equity is of the people, by the people and for the people.

There surely could be no harm in reading Equity in two papers and also to read of other organizations that for selfish interest the National Union might not publish as openly as a disinterested agriculture paper.

Just now, we don't need perhaps the two papers, but for all times to come it's surely the best.

We surely, the Farmers' Equity Union (the members), should stand by one agriculture paper as long as it is willing to stand by us. We rather owe this to Colman's Rural World. Let's hear from others.

VIRGIL WIRT.

SHALL THE FLETCHER BILL PASS?

Chicago, March 21.—Views of the American farmer on the attempts of the National Congress to furnish him with rural credit schemes will probably be embodied in the report of the Second National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credits, to be held in Chicago April 14, 15, 16 and 17, in joint sessions with the Western Economic Society.

Among the measures that will be carefully analyzed is the Fletcher Bill. White light will be thrown upon this particular measure, and it is likely to produce an exceedingly lively comment.

Reports on this measure since its introduction in the Senate have covered a wide range. It has been praised as the answer to the problem of securing for the farmer easy loans with which to buy land and move his crops, and it has been attacked on the ground that it is a scheme to deliver the vast land assets of the farmers into the hands of Wall Street for speculative purposes.

The Rural Credit idea as its real friends see it, proposes to unite and solidify the borrowing power of the farmers of the country, reduce interests to them, and safeguard them against foreclosure. For years rural credits were urged by thinking men who had the interests of the farmer at heart, but the movement did not seem to come forward. During that time every possible effort was made

by moneyed interests to secure the enactment of the Aldrich Currency plan, the core of which was the central bank controlled in New York City. This movement was halted by President Wilson, who took the "joker" out of the Wall Street Central Bank.

Under the Fletcher Rural Credits plan there would be established a central bank controlling approximately \$6,000,000,000 in loans annually. This and other features will be carefully analyzed by experts at the Second National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credits.

TENANCY.

"Tenancy is the big handicap to the successful organization of farmers for more business-like marketing of their products from a large proportion of the farms of America today," declared Charles W. Holman, of the University of Wisconsin and secretary of the Second National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credits meeting in Chicago April 14, 15, 16, and 17. Mr. Holman has been making an exhaustive study, running through several years, of the land question in connection with the important problem of securing adequate prices for farm products.

"Within a few years," he asserted, "the land question will be a national political issue. It has already become so this very year in the state of Texas, where thinkers and politicians are deeply agitated over the fact that the quarter of a million farm tenants have it within their power to control the political situation if they organize. And the situation in Oklahoma is like a smoldering volcano. Class prejudice vies with exploitation to handicap the farmer in organizing effective sales agencies.

"In the very section of the country where we would think farm tenancy would have difficulty in increasing we find a most alarming increase in the ratio of tenant farmers over home owning farmers. The attending short lease systems and shifting of tenants from farm to farm greatly complicates the problem of organization and in many ways offers the most formidable handicap to the securing of a living price for farm products that now confronts the American farmer.

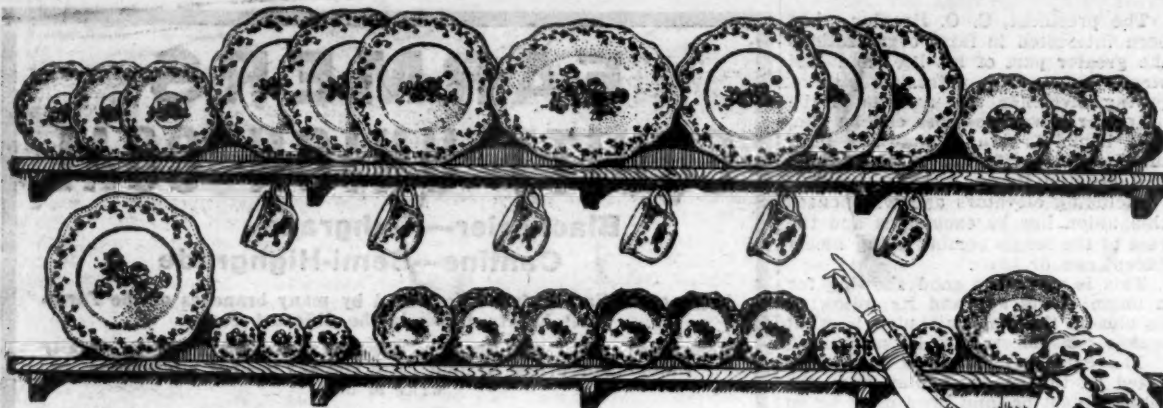
"It is generally admitted that the future of farmers' selling agencies depends upon effective local organization. Certainly a survey of existing organizations warrants the belief that the non-profit making corporation will be the farmers' organization of the future.

"But how is it possible to develop a strong, stable organization in a community that consists of 80 per cent tenant farmers, and 60 per cent of those farmers move to different localities from year to year?"

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Oxidized frame, prettily embossed with handsome floral design; 19-inch chain. Mesh bags are all the rage. Very handsome. Given free for selling 20 large art and religious pictures at 100 each. We trust you with pictures until sold. Send name, address, and post card will do. People's Supply Co., Dept. E. W. 716 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.



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DINNER SET
AND
41 EXTRA
PRESENTS**

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ARTICLES
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Positively the most liberal and biggest dish offer ever made. No home has enough dishes—good dishes. This is a wonderful collection of presents. We can only show the beautiful dishes—the rest of the presents we haven't room to show—but a full description and picture of them will be sent you the minute you send us your name. **ALL ARE ABSOLUTELY FREE** to introduce our business in your locality. All that is required is a few minutes of your spare time. Read below carefully, and send the coupon and I will do the rest.

Description of Dishes

Our magnificent 33-piece dinner set is the product of one of the finest and largest potteries in the world, the old rose and gold leaf design having become famous in aristocratic homes.

They are full size for family use, and the set consists of:

- 6 large plates.
- 6 teacups.
- 6 saucers.
- 6 butter plates.
- 6 fruit or cereal dishes.
- 1 deep vegetable dish.
- 1 large meat platter.
- 1 large cake or bread plate.

In the center of each piece there is a cluster of roses depicted in their natural colors and surrounded by brilliant green foliage so that almost the only thing missing is the fragrance.

The edge of each piece is enriched with a gold border which adds greatly to the beauty of the dishes. The ware itself is pure white, and is dainty enough to delight the most fastidious housekeeper.

Each dish bears the genuine stamp and TRADE MARK of the great world-renowned Owen China Company of Minerva, Ohio. This stamp guarantees the high superior quality of this set of dishes, guarantees them absolutely. It proves to you that this is the real Owen chinaware.

Easy to Secure All

If you want our 33-piece dinner set, and the 41 other presents, simply sign your name on the coupon below, and return it to us promptly and we will send you a **LARGE ILLUSTRATION IN COLORS**, showing this beautiful Dinner Set with its handsome decorations of red, green and gold against the pure white background of the ware itself.

We will also send you **SIXTEEN** of our **BIG NEEDLE CASES**—115 best grade, big eye, extra quality steel needles of all sizes in each needle case.

If you will show these Needle Cases to sixteen of your lady friends and ask them for 25 cents each **IN CONNECTION** with another special offer, which we will tell you about in our first letter, we will send you, by freight, this handsome 33-piece Rose and Gold Decorated Dinner Set, **ABSOLUTELY FREE, AS A PRIZE**, and in addition the 40 post cards and a beautiful extra surprise gift for being prompt.

Just write your name and address on the coupon and mail it to us and the 16 needle cases, the pretty many-colored picture of the dishes and full instructions for getting them will come right out to you in a jiffy. Send no money—just your name. We trust you with the sixteen needle cases—if you can't dispose of them, we will send postage for their return. Don't wait until these dinner sets are all gone. Send in the coupon now.

41 Extra Presents Free

The dishes are not all you get by any means.

Our plan is full of **SURPRISES** and **DELIGHTS** for those of our friends who are willing to lend a helping hand at spare times.

The very first letter you get from us will surprise you before you open it. It will also delight you by telling all about the big 40 post cards collection which we want to give you in addition to the dishes. These beautiful post cards are so rare and attractive and printed in such a gorgeous array of colors that you will be delightfully surprised.

And still, **THAT** is not all. One of the prettiest surprises of all is kept a secret until the day you get the dishes and find a pretty present that you knew nothing about.

Isn't this a fascinating idea?

And what makes it more so is that we have something nice for everyone of your friends and neighbors, too. We'll tell you **ALL** about it as soon as we receive the coupon with your name on it.

The coupon starts the whole thing.

Send This Coupon NO MONEY

Colman's Rural World,
718 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Please send me, postpaid, the sixteen Big Needle Cases of best grade needles, together with Large Illustration, in colors, of the beautiful 33-piece dinner set and tell me all about the other gifts.

My Name.....

Full Address.....

KENTUCKY NOTES.

Editor Rural World: March 23rd. A nice day, sun was but all day. We have had snow for a long time now, the part of the time there were only spots to be seen; snowed yesterday. Ground still freezes hard every night. Not much prospect for early planting of any kind. Grass had tried to start a time or two, but is from again, so no progress in that line. No ground plowed yet. We will sow some oats soon as the weather will be fit. The head boy has gone to the city on a business trip—will take in some silo shows on coming back, that is to say he will go where they have been in use for some time past and gain what information he can. We have not purchased any as yet. We want to be well informed on the subject. We have information from the stations and different magazines. At any rate we are enough interested and believe from all information gained that the thing to do will be to embark and see what we have to learn by actual experience. The girls have a new wash machine, the first we have ever had; also, have a new wringer, first one also in all my housekeeping time. Dollars are never so plentiful but what there is something needed that one has to waste nearly a life-time to get. I sewed by hand for many years making the family's clothes, and the first money we ever received for sweet clover was for a sewing machine that was about 10 years ago, and so, after much more waiting, we have a washing machine. We did not buy an expensive one. It cost only \$2.75, but several of my friends have that kind and they like them so we will see if we like the new play (?) thing.

Several more friends heard from from Illinois, who found Sweet Clover successful. I think surely we should receive customers next season to readily take all our seed. Just read up some lime bulletins, surely all those tests are worth anything at all we farmers should heed what is being told us and use limestone without stint. If possible I want to order a little as a trial. Would like to know if our limestone soil would be benefited to, have crushed limestone added thereto. It is claimed that this is so. Still I think it is well to try for ones self. Each locality has a peculiarity all its own. Every farmer should in a way be his own experiment station. Advice is good but experience is still better—then we know.

Friends, we thank you for your kind patronage, one and all, and hope you will all succeed with sweet clover. Do not forget that using crushed lime rock is a good thing to help bring success with Sweet Clover.

Seven more days left for March. Perhaps the first of April will bring us spring weather so we may be permitted to begin plowing and planting.

I have often wondered why Kentucky is called the South, or was called that in slavery time. Surely we have quite a northern climate here. We fancy seasons are changing, it seems later before spring time comes, than formerly. Trees have not made as much advance as is usual for this time of year. We have a small spraying apparatus now and will now be prepared to go for the bugs. Some trees we had set out 20 years ago (apples) are now dying no doubt from not having been sprayed. I mean to look after our orchards better in future. No use in spending money for trees then let them die because for want of a little spraying.

Of course, in this particular we are unacquainted, but as it is never too late to do good, now is a good time to begin. This, friends, is a gentle reminder for you to do likewise. Spend a few dollars and save your trees and perchance have some nice fruit for yourselves and some to sell at good prices. Also, have ordered a few strawberry plants from the Northward to set in our kitchen garden (we mean our vegetable garden.) We used to raise them for market, but we allowed them to be plowed up and other work crowding us neglected to replant. Do likewise, friends, try to have some of this delicious fruit in your garden. We should not deny ourselves anything that it is possible to grow in the garden.

MRS. J. T. MARDIS.